JOHN BULL, MARCH 24, 1928 Vol. XLIII. No. 1136

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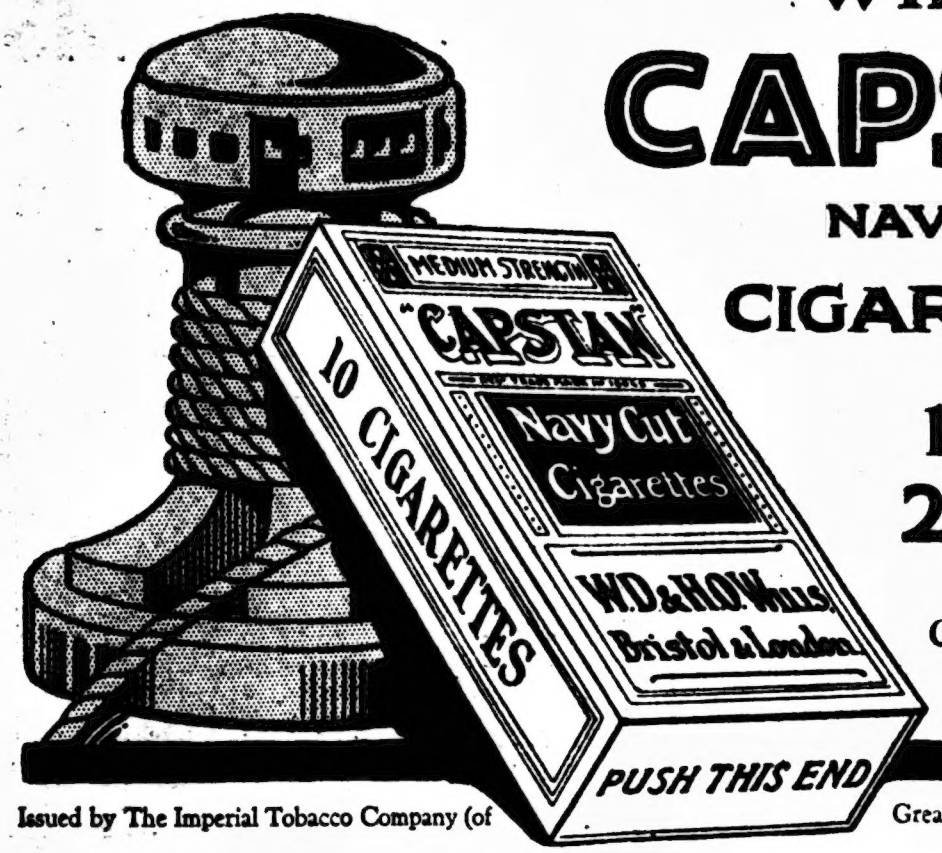

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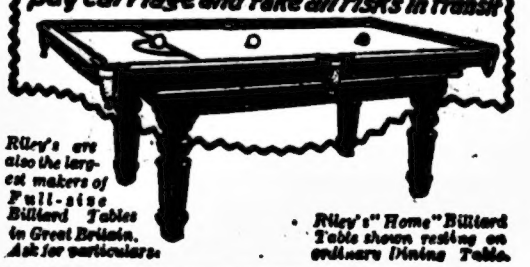

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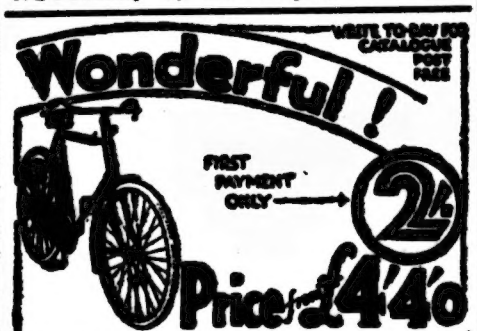

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CURRYS cycle advt. on page 25 will interest readers of *John Bull*.

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ENGINEERS and others will be interested in the NEW ERA PUBLISHING CO.'S advt. on page 23, which contains an offer of a free descriptive booklet on "The Engineering Educator."

FREE.—Readers of *John Bull* who have never tried SHREDDED WHEAT can send for a free sample. Be sure to send your application to Dept. 26. The address is to be found in their advt. on page 18.

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The WORLD, the FLESH & the DEVIL

Battle Opens.

The General Election campaign has started in earnest. The Franchise Bill and the manner of its staging reveal obvious electioneering.

More "Twicers."

Election-rigging is wrapped up in the Franchise Bill itself. Two votes apiece go to wives of business men whose husbands occupy business premises in a different constituency from their homes. Creating equality between sexes, the Bill heightens inequality between classes.

It's "Class."

Even unashamed advocates of "weighting the business vote" must see that the discrimination made is snobbish. The office tenant who lives "out of town" gets two votes, but one is good enough for the man or woman who lives "over the shop."

To the New Voters.

The five million young women voters coming into action next year will find politicians of all Parties desperately anxious to "educate" them. Our advice to the new electorate is, "Study John Bull, and set about educating the politicians."

Words, Words, Words!

The flood of talk, some eloquent, more meaningless, much absolutely silly, pours forth in unabated flow during every Parliamentary sitting. If it led to action nobody would grumble, but it doesn't.

Angling Tactics.

Politicians are too well versed in the gentle art of gulling the electorate. All the talk of "concessions" and "plums" is out of place in a Budget. What the country wants is strong, straight planning to put its finance on a workable basis.

All Together.

Discussion of the "fighting" Estimates separately has been as futile and barren as usual. Efficiency and economy can only come from overhauling the national expenditure on armaments as a whole. It's a right Parliament should insist on.

Don't Be Blinded.

Great capital is being made out of the "reduction" of this year's Estimates for the Fighting Forces. The thing to remember is that we are still spending more than £2,000,000 a week on means of destroying life, and this ten years after the "war to end war."

Spanish Sense.

Salvador de Madariaga argues that "National budgets for military expenditure by the nations of the world in one year would pay the League of Nations' expenses for 650 years." What they would pay in human happiness and welfare no man can compute.

Labour's "Regret."

The motion tabled in the House of Commons regretting that the Government did not advocate older proposals for aerial disarmament will be reflected at Geneva. Civilisation is not utterly insane.

Good Work.

The League of Nations intends to put down all "trade" in women. Music-hall artistes touring abroad are looked on as prey when young and attractive. From Great Britain alone there are 600 girls of this type needing protection.

Women Know.

German women protest against maintaining licensed houses in occupied territory and French women support them. International action for closing them has been crowned with success. But why not cease "occupying" other people's territory? That makes the mischief.

Britain's Disgrace.

Ill-nourishment among miners' children is increasing to an alarming extent. That it is not already at starvation point is "entirely due to the self-sacrifice of mothers," say medical officers. Who, unmoved, can stand its continuance?

Sans Income.

All praise is due to teachers and public officials in mining districts who struggle to keep boots on barefoot kiddies, but what an indictment of British management! Even now a pull in the right direction by every Member of Parliament working together could set matters straight.

Magnificent.

Clergy, doctors, public officials and social workers all testify to the splendid behaviour of the populations of devastated areas. Their patience is a call to public action, not an excuse for callous neglect.

Unity is Strength.

The growing seriousness of the mines situation is reflected in the united approach to the Government by Welsh owners and workers. It should have been made long ago.

Description.

"White as chalk against the sombre wall, the haggard face of a young man looks from the ochre shadows of an underground room," says a *Daily News* reporter of a mining village. *The guardians do not grant relief to unmarried men.* Are they to starve?

A Suggestion.

While holding no brief for the I.L.P., we think the proposal of a six-hour day for miners a good one. Work underground, in dark and stifling conditions, should be work of short hours. There are plenty of men to go round.

The Plea.

"If I did anything, give me a job!" begged Will Barrie, the young Tirphil miner, who in face of almost certain death pushed his way down a narrow, 90-ft. fissure to rescue a dog. All he asks is a man's chance. Who'll come forward?

£250 — £200 — £150 — £100

These four big prizes must be won in "Bullets" this week! Are you using one of the coupons on page 39?

Bathing Baby.

That scores of men attended Dr. King-Brown's "fathercraft" classes speaks well for the sense of parental responsibility in Bermondsey. We entirely endorse his idea that "the husband's interest can help the working-class mother a lot."

The Inference.

Bermondsey's interest in Bermondsey's Health Exhibition shows the need for better housing in the district. The vast majority of people everywhere want to live decent, clean lives. It's sheer tragedy that, under existing conditions, they cannot.

Give a Hand.

Despite the jeers of the ignorant, Russia's proposal to disarm gains adherents, Turkey being the latest. Fools laugh now, but those laugh longest who laugh last. And only a disarmed world can afford to laugh.

Golden Considerations.

Joint action by the Governments of the world is proposed to control gold and stabilise prices. Why not joint action to stabilise food prices? Nothing would do more to bring content.

Ancient Wisdom.

The old Romans were not far out when they spoke of "bread and circuses" as essential for the populace. Life isn't all work. Food, both cheap and good, and recreation also are necessities.

They Want Work.

Six thousand men assembled on the Town Moor at Newcastle when news went round that work in connection with the North-East Coast Exhibition was to be started. It flings back the lie in the teeth of those who talk of "won't works."

Raise the Status.

Midwifery is a vocation just as surgery is a vocation, and only those who regard it in that light are fit to be its practitioners, is the sound conclusion of a *Times* leader. What's wanted are more facilities for training midwives.

Terrible Total.

In this country 1,236,000 men, women and children exist on Poor Law relief. Such complete destitution confesses that statesmanship is also bankrupt.

Blood Money.

Slums of Kensington, so vile as to "baffle description," pay high rents, "more for fetters and squalor, per cubic foot, than those charged for ease and comfort." *That's* the reason why slums aren't abolished.

Ha! Ha!

Why are butchers "reluctant" to show their account-books to the Food Council? Traders making fair profits have nothing to fear. It is reticence that looks shady.

Question.

Why should flour be 43s. per 280 lb. sack in London and 39s. 6d. in Glasgow and 38s. in Liverpool? Grab where you can and keep what you get seems to be the only answer, but it spells ruin to thousands of poor people.

The WORLD, the FLESH & the DEVIL

Wanted, Work for Wife.
So that his wife may go about looking for work for herself, a man at Carlisle has offered to stay inside the workhouse along with their six children. The limit in slackness has evidently not yet been reached.

Old Drains, New Roads.
Not fifty yards from where repairs of the Harewood main road are in progress drain repairers are hacking up the newly laid surface to repair old drains underneath. What an idiotic waste of public funds!

Swiss Sense.
By 144 votes to 38, the Swiss National Council has abolished the death penalty. Why a country like England, which prides itself on being ever in the van, should cling to the barbarism of capital punishment is difficult to understand.

Little Bricks.
At the ages of seven and nine, to raise £25 for the Liverpool Royal Babies' Hospital by organising a bazaar at home, is something of an achievement. Congratulations to Pam and Jack Becket on having made such splendid use of their playtime.

Piggish Conduct.
The magistrates who merely fined James Rees, of Merthyr, 20s. for keeping three pigs cooped up in a small cask may learn a lesson from the fact that William Rowberry, a Cwmbach haulier, is doing two months' hard labour for cruelly starving a sow and her young. That's the way to treat brutes.

Rubbing It In.
When a daylight robbery was committed at South Bromley, Mr. King, a local nurseryman, found abandoned on his premises a G.P.O. parcels cart that had been used to carry off the booty. Public vehicles for public robbery! It points to the desirability of keeping a better watch on public property.

That's the Way!
Hats off to the Vicar of Northwich for wholeheartedly tackling the district's slum scandal. As a result of his initiative there is an anti-slum candidate ready to fight in every Northwich Ward at the Urban District Council election. A splendid example to the Church in other districts where slums abound.

Justice in Blinkers.
How long are we going to put up with the senseless law that imprisons a man for deserting his wife and family? The shortsightedness of most effectively preventing Arthur William Robbins, of Merthyr, from looking after his wife and kiddies by supporting him during three months' hard labour passes belief.

Pitiful Plea.
Remanded at Brighton on a charge of theft, Mrs. Margaret Seeby, aged twenty-four, begged to be sent to prison "for a long time," as having been there once she found no new life was possible. Was her marriage at sixteen to blame? Children's nuptials kill romance and eagerness by drenching youth with hard experience too soon.

War's Aftermath.
The Norwich and District War Pensions Committee rightly agitates for the continuance of pensions beyond the present age-limit of twenty-one to war orphans, physically or mentally incapable of self-support. What a scandal that thought of these unfortunates has proved no sickener to those who still persist in glorifying war!

His Miserable Conscience.
Every bit as bad as a murderer is John Johnson, of Greenwich, who admitted writing poisonous letters to Rosetta Marriott, a young domestic who was fond of him. Finally, she could bear his penmanship no longer, and drowned herself in the Thames. The coroner's title of "An abominable fellow" cannot be bettered by us.

Despicable Deserters.
To keep alive the wives and bairns of men who have put the seas between themselves and their families, the Glasgow Parish Council has had to spend about £35,000 a year. The scandal and the wrong must be dealt with, and the runaways searched out and made to realise their duty.

Help for the Wedded.
Mr. Harry Snell's suggestion that there should be a court specially set apart for matrimonial cases is a real brainwave. Advice of sympathetic experts, backed up by authority and obtainable outside the atmosphere of the police-court, should be a valuable antidote to divorce and judicial separation.

Tripped Up.
Posing as an ex-captain in the R.A.M.C. and a medical man, Ernest Phillips, after victimising a florist, gave himself away by describing X-rays as an anæsthetic and *ad valorem* as a drug. Three months' hard labour, to which the Birmingham magistrates sent him, is not a day too long for such dangerous swindling.

A Nice Companion.
Passengers on a Rotherham Corporation 'bus had a lively time when Benjamin Briggs, while drunk, challenged fellow-passengers to fight and splashed them with beer from a bottle. But what is the use of only fining such a man, with thirteen previous convictions, and who does not even deign to appear in court, 40s. with costs. His bad habit, not his money, needs extraction.

The Test.
Eighteen years' service in the Black Watch, an exemplary character, the Long Service Medal, Mons Star, Victory Medal and British War Medal did not weight the scales in favour of Mr. Thomas Connor, of Peebles, when on returning to civilian life he registered for employment as a postal worker. "He is too small to reach the letter-boxes." But he was not too small to "defend his country" for nearly half a lifetime!

The Human Machine

The Only Way

by E. R. THOMPSON, M.A.

I DO not think there is any more brilliant debater in the House of Commons than Mr. Winston Churchill. Even his bitterest opponents would concede that.

Yet Mr. Churchill was not a born speaker; far from it. He became the best debater in the House of Commons through sheer hard work.

It is the only way. There is no other way of achieving success. If you want to succeed you must work, and work hard.

Mr. Churchill leapt into fame with a single speech. But that speech was written out no fewer than six times with his own hand.

And it was memorised! There is an example of industry for you. The result was to put Mr. Churchill in the front rank of oratory.

THERE is no short cut to success. The road is always long and steep; but there is no reason for anyone to fail if only he has the pluck to persevere. Even the steepest hill can be climbed with enough time and energy.

The world very rarely throws gifts into your lap; but it is always ready to give you what you ask for—if you ask long enough and loud enough.

You will make a success of your work just as soon as you make your work an art. You can make your work an art just as soon as you put all your thought and perseverance into it

For what is an artist except a man who knows how to do a job perfectly?

May It Prick Hard!
Walking along a riverside, Clarence West, of Pindar Street, Leeds, made advances to a young woman in his company. She slapped his face and, in running away from him, fell into the river. Eleven days passed before her dead body was recovered. We should not like to be possessed by West's conscience.

Fun That Cost.
To knock down Miss Mary Dixon while she was walking with children in a wood at Swarthmore, and then thrash her with a stick, was John Hodgson's idea of "a bit of fun." She had the grit to summon him, and a month's hard labour as a result may teach him the difference between "teasing" and downright brutality.

Wasting Time.
A policeman had so little to do that he caused two youths to be summoned at Marylebone for gambling—playing darts in the street. It appears that the winner won a halfpenny. Mr. Bingley decided that darts is a game of skill, and the summons was dismissed. We hear so much about the overworked police that we marvel at them wasting time on such halfpenny cases.

System that Suits Shylock.
When Judge Sir Alfred Tobin expressed surprise that so many Civil servants were sued by moneylenders, he was informed that salaries were paid either monthly or quarterly. Some found it difficult to make the money last, and fell into Shylock's clutches in consequence. To check the evil the Government should emulate the majority of employers by paying weekly.

Manipulating the Market.
We would like to know what justification there is for the recent advance in the price of leather, considering that, according to the River Plate report, 300,000 more cattle were slaughtered in 1927 than in the previous year. Also, on the authority of the League of Nations, we learn that there are in existence 40,000,000 more cattle to-day than in 1913. This barefaced attempt to manipulate the market must be nipped in the bud.

Our Advice.
The Manchester Stipendiary, in sending to twelve months' imprisonment Horace Derbyshire, a married man who posed as single, and after luring Edith Moss, a Wakefield servant, to a room at Chorlton-on-Medlock, robbed her of all she possessed, could not reimburse the unhappy victim. There is only one safe rule. If girls would insist upon introduction to an unknown suitor's relations such rogues would be foiled.

Help Wanted.
There's a job going for a Hull health visitor. Harriet Gertrude Anderson, of St. Andrew's Avenue, Prince's Road, summoned for ill-treating her eight-months-old baby by immersing him in a bath in which she thought she had drowned him, has been put on two years' probation and told by the Stipendiary to cheer up and pull herself together. Fighting depression is miserable work unaided. Who will help?

Doctor's Mistake.
Dr. Robb, one of the district medical officers of the Lambeth Board of Guardians, must learn to exercise more care. He ordered a child to hospital when she was not fit to be moved, and the mite died in the ambulance. At the inquest at Brixton the coroner said Dr. Robb undoubtedly committed a serious error of judgment. All human beings make mistakes, but doctors cannot afford to make many such as this.

Haig Heroes.
"You went, as all miners go, towards the danger. Instead of going out of the pit as you could have done, you went in to the assistance of your fellow-workers," said the Commissioner of those who carried out rescue operations after an explosion, involving seventeen deaths, in the Haig pit at Whitehaven. We who enjoy fires and those whose incomes are derived from coal cannot do less than the best for those who defray its real cost.

Too Easily Got.

The Paddington coroner, commenting that deaths from poisonous drugs, owing to ease in obtaining them, were getting far too common, described the chemist who provided Miss Emily Cook with double the number of medicinal cachets prescribed for by the doctor as "injudicious." "Legally liable" would be our designation.

Lunatic at Large.

At an inquest held on the body of Major William Horsley, inspector of accounts at the Air Ministry, who was found with his head in a gas oven, it was stated that he had threatened suicide quite often, and had actually made three previous attempts on his life. Why was a man in this state of mind allowed to retain his liberty?

Who's for Homes?

Four families, including a baby, and a man who has just succeeded in building up a greengrocery and coal business, have been turned into the street owing to the tumbledown condition of a house in Upper Charlton Street, Tottenham Court Road, W.C. Financiers erect expensive West End flats. Few are public-spirited enough to risk their money building homes for workers.

Limited Choice.

Begging or stealing is the only alternative in the eyes of James Evans, aged sixty-eight, who says he means to return to the former occupation after serving fourteen days in prison for pursuing it. Not an enviable state of mind, is it? We should have taken our hats off to the Cardiff magistrates had they found means of keeping him going till he is due for an old-age pension.

Not So Simple.

The Swansea Corporation, answering criticism of a glaring case of overcrowding in cellars at Mount Pleasant, claims that its housing needs have been met, and blames folk for herding in unsanitary conditions rather than live a mile from work. Municipal workers must realise that tact and patience with those who have never had a chance are more important than bricks and mortar in the making of homes.

Law versus Sense.

A Dalston firm of cabinet-makers sought possession of premises adjoining their factory in order to effect an extension which would give employment to some fifty men. Judge Cluer stated that he was bound by a decision of the Divisional Court, which had held that private enterprise was not in the public interest, and the application was refused. This may be good law, but it is certainly not common-sense.

"Let It Burn!"

There was no quibbling about the fire being outside the area when the Dolgelly Fire Brigade travelled forty miles over flooded roads to save a blazing farm near Aberystwyth. Why the Porthkerry Fire Brigade could not have turned out for a fire a hundred yards away, instead of discussing the question of who was to pay afterwards, is utterly disgraceful. Firemen have no business to ask, "Who is my neighbour?"

Mercenary Stationery Office.

Government departments have the reputation of carefree extravagance; but H.M. Stationery Office seems to have erred recently in the other direction. Several posters were borrowed for the Royal charity matinée at Drury Lane Theatre the other week, and the Director of Accounts lost no time in rendering a bill for 5s.! When so many people gave their services freely for the good of the cause, such a mercenary attitude on the part of a Government department is to be regretted.

Fine Feat.

Under incessant rains, to dismantle and rebuild the stand at Cardiff Arms Park by the day of the Wales *v.* Ireland International match, Messrs. Bonnies and Meaden and Mr. W. Rowles dismantled 100 tons of steelwork, re-erected 140 tons, provided 200 concrete bases and removed and refixed 40,000 lineal feet of decking. That they carried out their contract, in under a month, was a triumph of the spirit that can weather the worst trade depression.

Monstrous Revelation!

During the hearing of a matrimonial dispute at Manchester Police Court the other day, it was stated that a house rented at only 7s. 6d. a week was being sub-let to various other tenants, whose weekly payments totalled £2 10s. "There ought to be some law to prevent this evil profiteering" was a magisterial comment, with which everyone will agree.

"Lonely Soldier" Scamp.

John Easingwood, a ship's fireman of Driffield, is as low-down a rascal as one would find in many a day's march. During the war he was befriended as a lonely soldier by Mr. Morgan, since dead, and he repaid the kindness by bullying the widow and daughter into giving him money. Why he was discharged on entering into a recognisance to be of good behaviour is not easy to understand.

Let Down Lightly.

There are some rogues who seem to enjoy a charmed existence, and Edgar Cyril Bredin should consider himself one of them. For years now he has taken life easily at other people's expense. And, at long last, after being four times exposed in JOHN BULL, he has been apprehended for obtaining credit without disclosing the fact that he is an undischarged bankrupt. "I am dealing with you very leniently," remarked Mr. Halkett in passing sentence of six months without hard labour. We should think so, too!

Wynne on the Warpath.

A Mr. K. T. Hardman, of Birkenhead, sends us a letter he has just received from Dr. E. W. Wynne, the man of many degrees, who has frequently figured in these columns. Dr. Wynne lays a recent article in this paper at Mr. Hardman's door and declares that he will be cited as an accessory to the libel when an action is launched against JOHN BULL. Mr. Hardman is puzzled, because he has never written any such article; but if he knew Wynne as well as we do he would realise that the doctor writes most extravagantly at times.

Disappointing Parrots.

Horace Holland, of Hall View, Stapleford, Notts, is in the habit of advertising parrots for sale in eulogistic terms; but we have received more than one complaint regarding his methods of business. One reader, for instance, sent £1 5s. for a bird described as "talking, laughing, tame and doing amusing tricks." A bird arrived, but it was so far short of the advertised description that our reader promptly sent it back. Now he cannot get his money and has only the sorry consolation that others are in the same boat.

Casson Caught.

Arthur Casson, alias Carson, whose convalescent home swindle was exposed in our issue for January 14, under the heading "Mystery Nursing Home," has now reaped his reward. We gave a long list of misdemeanours, and these have now been taken into consideration at Manchester Assizes, where Casson has been sentenced to four years' penal servitude. Mr. Justice Wright echoed our sentiments in stating that it was "of very great social importance" that men should not be allowed to float worthless companies.

"Dancing Girl's Ordeal."

With reference to an article which appeared in our issue of July 16 last, entitled "Dancing Girl's Ordeal," we stated that Miss Muriel Sothern's return passage from France to England was paid for by "the kindly couple who had befriended her." We have since learned that the money for the fare was forwarded by Mr. J. W. Jackson with whom Miss Sothern had signed a contract to appear in a revue at the "Moulin Rouge." We are informed that throughout Mr. Jackson acted under the instructions of his legal adviser in the matter.

Fatal Accidents at Home
"JOHN BULL" PAYS £250
(*See page 2*)

Problems of Life

The Two Things Needed

by the Rev. R. J. CAMPBELL, D.D.

WHEN I was a young man beginning my life-work I happened on one occasion to be among the guests at a house whose inmates were fairly well known to me.

Dr. R. J. Campbell

Opposite to me at the table sat a middle-aged lady whom I had never seen before nor have I ever met her since.

She had a sallow complexion and weary eyes; but what struck me most about her was her hard, discontented, sullen expression.

After a time I realised to my surprise that she was deliberately trying to be uncivil to me. If I addressed a remark to her she made some curt reply or received it with a sort of sneering politeness not far removed from positive insult.

She did not snub or ignore me; on the contrary, she kept up a conversation which was a succession of pin-pricks.

She seemed to be groping all the time to find unpleasant things to say, and yet she managed to say them in such a way as to leave one no excuse for resenting them.

LATER on I said to my host: "What is the matter with that lady; have I unconsciously offended her? She is rather like a snarling dog looking for a chance to bite."

He replied: "You have hit it; an ailing dog will snap at anyone. She does not know you, but things have gone so wrong with her in life that she hates the very thought of religion and all it implies; she thinks it all humbug. Her spitefulness is caused by her many disappointments."

The explanation made me wish to be friendly with the poor woman, but the opportunity never came.

The recollection of this episode has many times caused me to be patient with people whom I would otherwise have rebuked—people whom life has cheated of joy, who seem tired in spirit, who have ceased to hope for better things and whose gaze is stonily inward and withdrawn from their kind.

Not all of these are as ready to sting as the lady above mentioned, but they share the same smouldering anger against the cruelty of Fate and cannot help showing it.

THERE are two things they need to learn. First, that bitterness is weakness; and, secondly, that they are blindly thrusting peace away from themselves.

There is an old saying that Nature works towards compensation. We know this to be true of physical life; it is just as true of the spirit.

A truly strong character never succumbs to misanthropy, for this is not only folly, but an admission of defeat.

The last word in life is never spoken; there is always something worth living for, and we should be constantly on the look out for it. It may come as a surprise.

THREE SWINDLING SISTERS

A DANGEROUS FAMILY

Where are the Hogans?

WHAT has become of Mary, Marcella and Monica Hogan?

It is not so very long since these three engaging sisters were very much in evidence in a West London district; but at the present moment a number of people are enquiring in vain for them.

One of the many anxious enquirers is a Kensington provision-merchant, who is concerned about the non-payment of an account for £35 odd which has been long outstanding.

"You are the only people I can turn to in trouble," he writes to us. "Can you help me?"

We are bound to confess that, so far, our efforts to locate the three elusive sisters have not been attended with success; but we have made a number of interesting discoveries which should help to throw some light upon their movements.

Tricky trio

This being so, we hasten to make our discoveries known in the hope that publicity will succeed where other measures have failed.

The Hogan sisters are three Irish ladies who seem to have made a practice of living in great style at the expense of others.

Mary Hogan is perhaps the most energetic member of the trio, but she has been most ably supported by Marcella and Monica, both of whom have played important parts in the merry family game.

The latter, by the way, is now married.

Mary's favourite pastime in recent years appears to have been that of obtaining valuable houses on lease with an eye to substantial profits.

On more than one occasion she has thus secured a house in a fashionable neighbourhood and has sub-let it for her own personal gain, at the same time frequently neglecting to pay anything in the way of her own rent, rates or taxes!

This thrifty mode of living has doubtless saved Mary some very considerable sums, for we have ascertained that £135 is owing for rates in Kensington alone!

Confusing complications

At one time Mary lived luxuriously in a house at Hyde Park Gate, for which she was supposed to pay a rental of over £200 a year.

But, with characteristic nonchalance, Mary ignored the demands of her landlord, and eventually he had to put the bailiffs in possession.

It then transpired, however, that there were two prior executions, to say nothing of a bill of sale upon the furniture.

Matters were thus bad enough, but they were considerably complicated by the fact that Marcella and Monica both claimed the contents of this particular house!

Even the solicitors who acted for Mary at this turbulent time were victimised, for Mary eventually disappeared owing them more than £30 in fees for their services!

Meanwhile, in addition to her jugglery with the premises at Hyde Park Gate, Mary had secured the lease of another house in Melbury Road.

She had mortgaged the latter premises for over £1,500, and because

Mr. H. E. Burgess, Senior Official Receiver, whose department should be interested in the facts here disclosed

the repayments were most unsatisfactory, the building society, acting in conjunction with certain other creditors, deemed it desirable to force Mary into the Bankruptcy Court.

Outstanding warrant

But their well-meant effort was made in vain. Mary, with a callous indifference for the welfare of her creditors, absented herself from her public examination!

Her liabilities in this connection were returned at over £4,000, and the Receiver caused a warrant to be issued for her arrest.

But Mary is still laughing up her sleeve in safe obscurity, for that warrant is still outstanding against her, though a great many months have elapsed since it was first issued.

But, while proving such an unsatisfactory tenant herself, Mary had sub-let the Melbury Road premises at high rentals to various other tenants, from whom she had been careful to secure payment in advance!

And here, again, she had effected a considerable personal saving at the expense of others by neglecting to pay her rates, taxes and ground-rent!

While Mary has shown herself so deeply interested in the housing question, Monica and Marcella would appear to have confined their own activities more or less to running up huge accounts with tradespeople in different parts of the West End.

One well-known firm, we find, is anxious to trace Monica in respect of an outstanding account for household provisions. It eventually issued a summons, but up to the moment Monica has somehow contrived to avoid service.

A truly remarkable accumulation of tradesmen's bills is also registered against Marcella, and while she seems to have bestowed her custom impartially upon high and low alike, a number of her unfortunate creditors are people in a small way of business who can ill afford to lose their money.

Hopeless situation

Sometimes the three sisters join forces against their dupes in a most exasperating manner. The experience of a high-class firm of poultry dealers in West Kensington is a case in point.

Orders, in this instance, were given in the name of "M. Hogan," but the firm found the utmost difficulty in locating its real debtor.

Mary, apparently, suggested that it might be Monica or Marcella; Monica could only point to Marcella and Mary, while poor Marcella nobly stood down in favour of Mary and Monica!

Matters became more complex still when an endeavour was made to levy upon the furniture, for then the sisters were not nearly so retiring and each came forward and claimed something!

In the end, the situation proved so hopeless that the firm decided to write off the amount as a bad debt.

But it had not heard the last of the three Hogans. Some little time later it unwittingly became their creditor again through one of its branches where orders had been booked in the non-committal name, "Miss Hogan." These later debts have not been settled either.

So persistently has this sort of thing been carried on that it is estimated that the combined debts of this Irish trio must run into many thousands of pounds.

Anxious dupes

Coal-merchants, wine-merchants, and provision-merchants are one and all clamouring for their cash.

A list of the creditors in Mary's bankruptcy is in itself illuminating, for it contains the names of no fewer than three moneylenders, all of whom are creditors for formidable amounts.

It is rarely that one encounters three sisters combining with such devastating effect to defraud shopkeepers of all classes, to say nothing of landlords, lawyers and rate-collectors.

The anxiety of the numerous dupes can well be understood, and, in concluding, it may be advisable to mention one or two further addresses that have been favoured at one time or another by the sisters Hogan.

Phillimore Gardens, Kensington; Upper Phillimore Place, Kensington, and Prince's Gate, all figure largely in their chequered history.

If any reader can throw light upon their present whereabouts, any information he may give will be appreciated.

The Big Block Bluff

Publicity with a Snag

A NORWICH reader has sent us a copy of a publication entitled *Shopping*, with a request for advice as he has been invited to take advantage of certain free publicity in its pages.

We advise him to shun the offer without compunction, and our reasons should serve as a very useful guide for other traders who may be similarly approached.

Shopping would appear to be yet another of those dummy publications, which have no real sale and which can only be obtained by order.

A number of such publications have sprung up in recent years and they have all been conspicuously generous in the matter of offering free publicity.

Big bills

Another point that they all possess in common is a habit of stipulating that the people so privileged should purchase the blocks used for illustrating the free "write-up."

Many unsuspecting traders readily agree to this and are astounded when they later receive a far heavier bill than they had anticipated.

It is quite clear that *Shopping* has been designed for these ends, for its pages are crowded with illustrations of a size out of all proportion to the printed matter.

In the case of our Norwich reader, the editor of *Shopping* wrote that the blocks used for illustrating his "write-up" would be 2s. 6d. per square inch.

As this is considerably more than double the average price for half-tone blocks, it will readily be seen that the trader would have to pay pretty heavily for his "free" publicity.

The proprietors of *Shopping* are given as The Industrial World, Ltd., of 19, Garrick Street, London, W.C., and the *Industrial World* appears to be a similar class of publication.

We note with interest, too, that a certain Mr. C. Styles figures as a director on the letter-heading of both these papers, and this name seems to bring back memories.

To be precise, Mr. C. Styles figured a little while back as the managing director of a journal known as the *Town and Country News*, which, curiously enough, also seemed to be exceptionally fond of making offers of free publicity to traders on condition that they afterwards took the blocks.

Take warning!

A number of complaints arose from traders who were staggered at the formidable accounts they were subsequently called upon to settle.

Victims of more than one firm who practise the blocks-for-illustration dodge have proved victorious in a court of law, but apparently the exponents of this form of ramp realise that far more will pay up rather than go to further trouble and expense.

Hence new publications of this class are always appearing, and we shall do our best to give the public ample warning.

A TRIO OF CROOKED ARISTOCRATS

TWO MONOCLED MEN AND A MISS

A Golden-haired Grasper

HOW two men and one woman can operate as a criminal organisation on a colossal scale is demonstrated in the following remarkable story, now related for the first time.

The two men involved are of marked military bearing and pass as retired officers of the British Army. Each affects a monocle, and the taller of the two usually adopts the name of "Captain Sherlocke."

His companion, who also takes upon himself the rank of captain, uses the hyphenated name of "Minton-Goode."

The woman in the case is very beautiful, and, like her two partners, is an extremely fine linguist. She also shares their taste for the best clothes that money can buy—or, to be more accurate, that ingenuity can win.

Useful assets

Her wealthy appearance and personal charm can be said to represent the trio's best assets. She frequently passes as "Mrs. Peachey," boasts luxuriant, reddish hair, and occasionally adopts the title of "Honourable" or "Lady."

The two captains and their charming lady friend nearly always operate from the most select and fashionable addresses. Latterly Clarges Street and Curzon Street have provided their headquarters.

"Captain Sherlocke" recently wandered into a well-known West End store and, enquiring for the fur department, explained that he wished to consider the possibility of introducing a wealthy lady customer.

Apparently, he was satisfied with the department's merits and later agreed to bring the lady along, emphasising the fact that she was rather a fastidious young person.

So in due course the beautiful "Mrs. Peachey" drove up to the store in a Rolls-Royce, accompanied by "Captain Sherlocke," who made it clear from his general demeanour that he was acting as her guardian.

Smart dodgers

Her address was truthfully given as Curzon Street, and with discriminating taste the lady proceeded to select some expensive furs. Her choice completed, she wrote out a cheque in payment.

As the store frequently accepted cheques from its affluent customers, and as "Mrs. Peachey's" appearance, the waiting Rolls-Royce and the select address given all combined to instil confidence, the goods were handed over without question.

Ultimately, however, the cheque, which was drawn on the Mayfair branch of a well-known bank, came back marked "No account."

Subsequent enquiries on the part of the duped firm elicited the information that, while "Mrs. Peachey" had no account with the bank, she was very well known there for the part she had played in similar transactions.

The firm then turned its attention to the woman's Curzon Street headquarters, only to find that her period of residence had been restricted to a few days, and that she had vanished suddenly without paying her account, or, rather, after paying it with another of her waste-paper cheques.

As a matter of fact, the victims are innumerable. Jewellers, tailors, furriers, provision-dealers and tradesmen of all kinds have been visited by the "Honourable Mrs. Peachey."

Sometimes she is escorted by "Minton-Goode," sometimes by "Sherlocke," for they appear to take it in turn to play the part of "guardian" in their clever coups.

And, on reflection, it is hardly surprising that they are able to present such an affluent, well-dressed appearance, since they contrive to obtain all their clothes and personal adornments free of all charge!

Their operations, we find, are by no means confined to London, for complaints have lately arisen in various other parts of the country where, in addition to traders, many hotels have been victimised.

But even the larger hotels in London have not escaped, for the beautiful "Mrs. Peachey" recently dined in great state with her monocled military friends at a fashionable resort in Piccadilly.

They selected the choicest viands and wines; then "Captain Minton-Goode" induced the waiter to accept a cheque and urged him to get the management to give him change.

Silent victims

As may be expected, the cheque was eventually dishonoured, and it is within our knowledge that these partners have rung the changes elsewhere by similar means.

And what of the costly cars which these engaging people use to such advantage in their various exploits?

Operating always from a reputable address, they usually engage the cars over the telephone; but the fact that their bills are seldom paid may be accepted when one learns that numerous garage proprietors are among the host of dupes who have complained to Scotland Yard.

Sir Archibald Bodkin, K.C.B., Public Prosecutor, whom we urge to give this interesting trio his attention

The trio recently stayed at an hotel in Euston, but, failing to pass a cheque, they were obliged to leave their luggage. When valuable effects can be obtained so easily, however, that is of small account.

A favourite plan of theirs is to give as their address an exclusive boarding-house, where bed and breakfast can be obtained for fifteen shillings.

One night's residence, one leisurely breakfast, one quick coup on the strength of that "address" and the trio disappear.

They are careful to select only the best shops and hotels for their coups, knowing full well that their victims are not anxious to be involved in any sensational publicity.

But with the facts here revealed, we trust their long immunity will be ended.

AN UNGRATEFUL RASCAL

ROGUE RIGHT THROUGH

FRANK BURGE is a young man who hails from Hoxton; and although he is now only twenty-one, he has already been in jail on two occasions for theft.

On each occasion he made fervent appeals to the magistrates for leniency on the grounds that his home surroundings were not such as assisted him to go straight.

Now, most people will sympathise with a youthful offender in such circumstances, and when Burge emerged from jail after serving the brief term (to which the magistrate was compelled to sentence him) on the second charge, he chanced to fall in with the C.I.D. officer who had handled his case.

Pitiful tale

This was Detective-Sergeant Cory, of the City Road Police Station, and he lent a kindly ear to the pitiful tale that Burge unfolded.

The lad declared that he was now finished with the life of crime upon which he had so thoughtlessly embarked, and expressed a yearning to go straight. Could the officer help him in this connection? If so, he would earn the repentant youth's undying gratitude.

A job found

Now, if a police-officer decides to render assistance in such circumstances, he must do so solely upon his own responsibility, and if anything goes wrong the consequences are not pleasant.

Detective-Sergeant Cory felt that Burge meant what he said, and, noting that the youth was clean and neat in spite of his reduced circumstances, felt that he was really making an endeavour to rehabilitate himself.

Burge had been apprenticed as a boy to a master baker and the police-officer now used his influence to get him a position in a bakehouse. Obtaining an interview with a prominent man in that trade, he eventually fixed up Burge in a job at a commencing wage of £3 10s. a week.

Another man he had previously assisted in this way had started at a similar wage and, having made good, is now earning £7 a week, so the prospects before young Burge were very good indeed.

But the officer's kindness went still further. As Burge was homeless, he found him apartments with a widow, who, in the circumstances, agreed to give the lad food and lodging at the modest price of 25s. a week.

Vows forgotten

Then there was the question of the first week's rent and a little available money for fares, etc.

Here, again, Detective-Sergeant Cory came to the rescue, and, in addition to advancing actual cash, crowned his generosity by lending Burge an overcoat of his own, for which he had paid seven guineas.

Thus this youthful offender was given a truly splendid opportunity of making good in the world. How did he use it?

For exactly three days all went well; then, despite his good position and rosy future prospects, Burge flung up his job and forgot all his repentant vows.

Abused trust

His base ingratitude did not end there, for he burgled his landlady's house, stole her purse containing all her week's housekeeping money and disappeared with everything he could conveniently lay his hands upon!

Yet, when he was arrested again a few days later, this incorrigible young scoundrel of twenty-one unblushingly begged for leniency.

Mr. Clarke Hall, who had previously listened to similar appeals, denounced Burge as an ungrateful young rogue and sent him to jail for five months with hard labour, saying that he had grossly abused the trust placed in him by the officer to whom he had whined for aid.

A SCOUNDREL'S DECOY

PUTTMAN'S PECULIAR PLUNDERING

The "Rook" and the Pawn

CROOKS seem to think that honest traders are fair game. They know the traders have the goods and lay themselves out to get them. And they know only too well how to set about to do it

SOME time ago a man, calling himself Ernie Puttman, in company with his clerk, William Henry Martin, decided that the profits to be made from bookmaking were insufficient to meet their demands, so they set out to make money by new methods.

Posing as a salesman of very well-known firms, he had notepaper printed with the heading "Puttman & Company," and established himself at an office in the Minories.

His next move was to get into touch with a number of tradespeople who act as buying agents for larger firms engaged in various lines of business.

In one instance, he sent Mr. William Henry Martin, who posed as his "buyer," to a gentleman who conducts a big agency business in Carthusian Street, Aldersgate.

Careful buyer

Mr. Martin soon impressed the agent with his engaging manners, and using the names of well-known firms, ordered a large consignment of goods, the total value of which ran into many hundreds of pounds.

This part was played by Mr. Martin to perfection, and he added to the good impression already created by stressing the fact that he was only an agent of the company run by Mr. Puttman, who was a very careful buyer.

If the goods were not up to sample, he averred, there would certainly be no further orders.

The trader had no wish to fling away a good order, especially if it was likely to be followed by others, so he agreed to supply the goods. Mr. Puttman responded with most businesslike alacrity by forwarding his cheque in payment.

Then came a surprise. Puttman proved himself such a careful buyer that his cheque came back "R.D."

And when enquiries were made at his headquarters in the Minories it was discovered that he had been more careful still, for both he and his expert "buyer" had disappeared.

A complaint was straightway lodged with the police at Old Jewry, whereupon it transpired that quite a number of people who had been similarly duped were on the look-out for Puttman and Martin, whose dishonoured cheques had become somewhat famous amongst merchants in the City of London.

Terrific fight

A warrant was eventually obtained for the arrest of this engaging duo on the charges of conspiring to obtain goods by false pretences and with uttering worthless cheques.

But, with the whereabouts of the precious pair wrapt in mystery, this document was rendered of little value.

The enquiries which followed in an endeavour to locate the missing men were abortive, but one day Martin was identified by two police-officers in the street and arrested. He put up a terrific fight, however, and kicked and punched and struggled so vigorously that he finally succeeded in escaping.

The late Sir Henry Whitehead, who must be honoured for his untiring efforts as the President of the Association for the Prevention of Fraudulent Trading

For a considerable time Martin was not heard of again; then, quite by chance, he was recognised by a policeman in Cornhill, who later succeeded in arresting him.

He was brought up at the Mansion House, where he pleaded guilty to absconding on the occasion of his first arrest and to the offences with which he was charged. In getting off with the extremely light sentence of three months' hard labour he is very lucky indeed.

"He is only the tool of another and far more dangerous man," said an official of the City Police, "and the real offender is not in custody."

Pawns who suffer

The real offender is Puttman, who, so far, has escaped all the consequences of his frauds. Many complaints are also lodged against him in his real name of Hartz, and we trust he will not be permitted to evade punishment much longer.

Unfortunately, there are scores of cases like this, where the pawns of crime suffer for the kings.

The records of the Association for the Prevention of Fraudulent Trading contain overwhelming testimony to the fact that the merest hirelings suffer again and again while those really responsible take advantage of their immunity to repeat their frauds in other names.

Although publicity has done much to curb the activities of rogues of the Puttman type, many old offenders have been encouraged to renew their activities by the lamented death of Sir Henry Whitehead, who, as president of the above association, waged unceasing warfare against all commercial frauds and suspicious bankruptcies.

It is not yet known who will succeed him in those arduous duties, but there have been many other recent instances of singular trading transactions of the above type, and if the real offenders are to be successfully combated drastic action is necessary.

THE PIANO CROOK

A FIDDLE-DE-DEE MUSICIAN

Bills and Coups

TO pose as a musical director, using an imposing string of letters after a signature, is the newest idea. But it proves only to be a cloak for an old idea—the getting of money for nothing

TOWARDS the close of last year, an individual who gave his name as Arthur Edwards, and who described himself as a musical director, rented a workshop at 135, St. George Street, E. The rental was 22s. 6d. and Edwards paid a deposit of exactly 5s.

But, in spite of this humble beginning, Mr. Edwards was full of ambition. He installed a small staff, consisting of two girls, two boys and a man, together with one piano and a quantity of timber.

At the end of three weeks, however, Edwards was in arrears with his rent and failed to put in an appearance at his new "workshop."

The landlord made enquiries, and, on finding that the employees were also anxious about their wages, he took proceedings against Edwards, who was ordered to pay two weeks' rent and costs.

Since then Edwards has not visited the workshop to claim the timber and piano or to attend to the correspondence that awaits him.

Sad tidings

His retiring disposition is doubtless affected with very good reason, for our investigations reveal the fact that quite a number of people are anxiously enquiring for him.

One is a lady who resides in Albany Road, London, S.E., for whom Edwards undertook to exchange a violin. When the Thames broke its banks and flooded so many riverside houses, Edwards came forward with the sad tidings that the lady's violin had been lost in the flood.

She learnt later, however, that his only known workshop had never been flooded and that the violin had been pawned in the name of John Robinson!

Another lady, in Hawkstone Road, Rotherhithe, paid Edwards £2 10s. to overhaul and tune her piano. He told her that two new strings were required and said that he would bring them when he called again.

He also accepted a small deposit for a piano-stool to match the lady's furniture; but the strings and the stool have not materialised and Edwards is apparently deferring his next visit indefinitely.

Cryptic letters

As a matter of fact, Edwards' musical abilities are somewhat doubtful. On occasion he has been known to add the letters "L.R.V.C.M." after his signature, but we have been unable to ascertain for what these are supposed to stand and there seems to be no such musical degree in this country.

One lady who paid Edwards to tune her piano declares that he left the instrument with one note missing and another striking dumb!

In another instance Edwards undertook to effect the exchange of a piano and a suite of furniture on behalf of a lady in consideration of a fee of £6.

But, after he had accepted a deposit of £1 10s., he did not come near the house, and when written to on the subject, he wired from Southampton to say that he was detained on business and would call in a day or two.

Taking the bait

As he did not fulfil this promise, the lady then took out a summons, whereupon she was favoured with a second telegram in which Edwards promised to refund the money.

He did not do so, however, and judgment was eventually obtained against him in Lambeth Police Court.

In spite of all this, she is still without her money, and even the solicitor who defended Edwards failed to get his fee!

One of Edwards' most remarkable transactions concerns his victimisation of a Rotherhithe gentleman, who paid £7 on the understanding that his piano was to be overhauled and repaired.

Edwards promised that the work would be completed in a few weeks and sent a van to collect the instrument at the expense of the owner.

A few days elapsed and then Edwards called to say that the frame of the piano was in such a bad condition that he strongly recommended a new one.

By a strange coincidence, he himself had the offer of securing a frame for 22s. and his client fell in with his suggestion and promptly paid this additional sum.

Amazing persistency

A day or two later, the energetic Mr. Edwards was in evidence again, this time with a tale of a bargain in piano-stools, and in this way he netted a further 15s.

The promised day of delivery came and went, and Edwards then sent a pencilled note to say that he could not get the piano finished in time, but would call to let the owner know the exact time to expect it.

He certainly called, but was very vague in fixing the "exact" time. It might be a week or a fortnight. Various other excuses were put forward, but this unfortunate gentleman is still without satisfaction.

And his position is rendered all the more hopeless by the fact that it is *his* piano that now lies in Edwards' abandoned "workshop," having been distrained upon by the landlord!

Edwards has carried out his coups with amazing persistency and has duped numerous poor people. It is also within our knowledge that complaints against him have been lodged with the police.

THE MAN with a LURID PAST

A TWISTER ON TOUR

Big Advertising Fraud

A VERY remarkable story lies behind a series of seemingly innocent advertisements which have lately appeared in a number of reputable newspapers.

One of the advertisements which appeared was couched in the following terms :—

Marconi 3-valve wireless set in enclosed solid mahogany cabinet. Sterling Baby Loud Speaker. Complete with H.T. Batteries, two accumulators, coils, etc. New Christmas. Cost £20. Will accept £7. Carriage Paid.—W. Raymond, 16, King Street, Weymouth.

Of course, if all that is claimed in this announcement were correct, it would indeed represent a bargain.

A Chesterfield reader realised this and, being particularly anxious to secure a good wireless installation, he wrote at once to Mr. Raymond to ask for further particulars.

Lucky first

Mr. Raymond replied promptly, giving the additional information, and stated that the bargain would be sent on receipt of the £7, unless it were snapped up in the meantime.

There had been numerous applications, apparently, and the first to send the money would be the lucky purchaser.

The Chesterfield client forwarded a remittance without delay, and was overjoyed when Raymond acknowledged receipt of his money order and promised delivery of the coveted wireless set forthwith.

Days passed however, but nothing further was heard at Chesterfield, and several letters sent to Mr. Raymond at far-off Weymouth were ignored.

Subsequent enquiries at Weymouth have revealed some startling facts. Mr. Raymond only stayed at the address in King Street for a week or so and then departed suddenly without leaving any clue behind him as to his next destination.

If he possessed a wireless set of any description, it was certainly not in evidence during his brief sojourn in Weymouth; but many letters containing money were delivered to him there before he left, from bargain-seekers who were anxious to snap up the £7 plum "if not sold in the meantime."

Since his sudden disappearance many victims have enquired for him, and it is quite clear that he only made temporary use of the Weymouth address for the purpose of defrauding divers people by means of his bogus but ingeniously-phrased advertisement.

Our challenge

In following up Mr. Raymond's Weymouth activities, we have ascertained some interesting facts.

And without fear of contradiction we are able to state that Raymond, who is a short, stout, red-faced man of forty-five, with a broken upper tooth, makes a very profitable living through the medium of swindling advertisements.

Nor does he confine his activities to the "sale" of non-existent wireless installations, for amongst his other "bargains" are things very far removed from the realms of radio.

And, if he thinks that he has effectively covered up his tracks, we hasten to disillusion him.

We challenge him to deny, for instance, that he is identical with James Allen, who, giving an address

Superintendent Savage, Central Office, Scotland Yard, where several complaints have been lodged regarding this crook's activities

at Hastings, recently advertised to the effect that he had an incubator and a foster mother for sale.

Many sidelines

In the case here referred to, a gentleman who resides at Clacton-on-Sea corresponded with "Mr. Allen," and, after similar promises as in the Weymouth operations, sent a cheque for £6.

He did not receive the goods, and subsequent investigation disclosed the fact that he was only one of many people who had been duped by "Allen's" incubator-foster-mother swindle!

From poultry-keeping accessories Raymond, alias Allen, progressed to bicycles. He took apartments at Portsmouth and, representing himself as a traveller for a London sign company, stated that he would be staying in Portsmouth until certain business was concluded.

For this occasion he elected to pass as A. Horton, and, with complete disregard for his alleged duties in connection with daylight signs, inserted an advertisement in another paper offering a "gent.'s cycle for sale" at £5.

As in the previous cases he received several letters containing money, but there is no evidence to show that he despatched a cycle to any of his clients or, indeed, that he ever possessed one!

He left Portsmouth just as suddenly as he had left Weymouth and Hastings, but before absconding he turned several of his victims' cheques into ready money and replenished his wardrobe.

His method was to visit various local traders, select whatever he desired and tender one or other of his cheques in payment.

Thus he killed two birds with one stone by providing his necessities and negotiating his ill-won cheques with a minimum of trouble.

In every case he kept his purchases well below the amount of the cheque he proposed to tender, and so secured the balance in cash.

Lurid record

In one instance "Mr. Horton" wandered into a Portsmouth hosier's shop and selected two suits of pyjamas.

The cheque he presented was one for £5, received, of course, from one of his cycle dupes; and as his purchases only came to 18s. 11d., he departed with two sets of new pyjamas and £4 1s. 1d. in change.

Who, then, is Raymond-Allen-Horton? He is a clever swindler of many aliases and addresses, and he can be said to hold a lurid record in the annals of criminal history.

His real name is believed to be Robert Broadhurst, and he is an optical instrument maker by profession. London is the place of his birth and he speaks with a full cockney accent.

Apparently, he was never satisfied with the monetary return to be gleaned from the manufacture of optical instruments, and from an early age he drifted into the underworld.

Before he launched out upon his present advertising swindles he had already been convicted in various parts of the country for fraud, and had become known to the authorities by more than a score of aliases.

At Tunbridge Wells, for example, he was sent to prison for obtaining money by false pretences from a woman who believed that he would marry her.

Lot of money coming

He then posed as Frank Hearne and obtained large sums of money from his trusting victim on the pretext that it was to provide their future home.

He hinted that he had a lot of money coming to him at an early date and that the money she was advancing would be returned later, when certain legal formalities had been fulfilled. Once having obtained her cash, however, Hearne merely absconded.

Amongst other places, convictions have been registered against him at Bournemouth, Eastbourne, Folkestone, Rhyl, Brighton and in London, while his numerous aliases include those of Walter Cook, George Mason, C. Thorne, F. Bennett and Francis Reeves.

It will be gathered that this energetic scoundrel has a marked preference for the seaside, but after this exclusive exposure we trust that his next vacation will be spent in less open localities.

Harding the Humbug

Will-o'-the-Wisp Cheat

CHARITABLE institutions should keep a watchful eye open lest they should be favoured with an appeal from an elusive stranger who gives his name as Harding.

He recently rang up the London Police Court Mission, and, stating that he was traffic manager for a firm of transport contractors at 16, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C., explained that he had just engaged a youth to attend a motor-lorry.

This lad, he went on, was in reduced circumstances, and Harding's object in ringing up the mission was to beg an advance of £1. He would undertake to deduct 5s. from the employee's salary each week until the loan was repaid.

He was told to send the young fellow along for an interview, and the loan was granted.

Subsequently, on a very urgent plea put forward again by Mr. Harding to the Police Court Mission, a further advance was made to the same youth and a similar advance was made to another lad to whom Harding promised employment.

The philanthropic Harding arranged to call in person, but to this day he has not put in an appearance, and the loans have not been repaid.

Enquiries at the address given in Water Lane have not yielded any helpful results, for the name of Harding is quite unknown there.

Any other institution that may be similarly approached should profit by the foregoing lesson.

Easton's Easy Money

MR. F. C. EASTON, of 45, Southside Street, Plymouth, issues a crudely-printed pamphlet known as the *Postal Times*.

Although this pamphlet only consists of four miniature pages, a note at its heading conveys the information that it incorporates *The British Moon*, the *Bonanza*, the *Luna Adz* and *Shackleton's Gazette*.

F. C. Easton certainly seems to dabble in world-wide rubbish.

We learn that Mrs. Adah Hale, of Eldorado, Arkansas, "the city of liquid gold," is prepared to give free information to girls on the subject of winning a husband!

Then there is the Casey Laboratory, of Boston, which offers a bargain package for 4s. 2d. in the form of concentrated hair-tonic.

Easton, himself, is nothing if not versatile. "Real photos of high-class (not filth) artists' models" is one of his interesting offers.

Easton also wants boys and girls to sell postage-stamps, shampoos and tooth-powders, and issues handbooks on the interpretation of dreams.

On the page facing the announcement calling for boys and girls appears an advertisement of a type most undesirable for juvenile readers, and this is sufficient to condemn Easton's "world-wide" campaign.

IMPERIA KNITTERS
THE MONEY SPINNERS

Make Money Now to Spend When Holidays Come

Anyone anywhere can make money at home with the IMPERIA KNITTER. It is so rapid in action that a little time given to it now and then soon results in a useful addition to the regular income. Some make a pound a week without neglecting household duties, some make more, and some, again, even make a business of Imperia Knitting and supply shops, friends and private customers. It is pleasant work, too, really a hobby and so easy to learn that you can begin to earn money at once. The IMPERIA KNITTER is so simple to understand that a child can work it, and every moment you give to the work means money to put by, perhaps for holidays or improvement of the home.

Read what others are doing

Mr. and Mrs. JARVIS, DEPTFORD, S.E., write:—
"I feel sure you will be interested to know that the very first week I had the Imperia Knitter I earned sufficient to pay for that month's instalment, and that ever since then my wife and I have been earning a comfortable living by working for you under your three years' guarantee. We were so delighted at the success we met with that we bought another machine shortly after we had the first one. I think the Imperia Knitter is very easy to work, and it has many improvements over other models I have seen. My little boy of 12 is able to use the Knitter, and can turn out good work. You may tell others if you wish of my experience."

Miss BARNES, CHESHAM, writes:—
"As a girl of fourteen I would like to inform you how proud I am to own an Imperia Knitting Machine, which has turned many a dull evening into a pleasure and money which has enabled me to go for a summer holiday by the sea for the first time. So all my thanks to the Imperia Knitter."

There is no other Machine quite like the IMPERIA KNITTER. Every latest improvement is embodied in the IMPERIA KNITTER. It is the model of the moment, and so simple to operate that a child can work it.

IMPERIA KNITTERS

Trade Mark.
THE PERFECT KNITTING MACHINE

We Guarantee to Buy Your Work

and pay the highest rates. There is no trouble about selling. We buy from you under a signed agreement. At the same time you are free to sell to friends and private customers and shops. Then you can make for yourself and your family and save money that way. The IMPERIA KNITTER knits all sorts of things from hosiery and underwear to jumpers and sports coats. You don't need a lot of capital either. The IMPERIA KNITTER pays for itself and enables you to put money by for holidays and little pleasures or to help out in time of need.

Get the Imperia Book Absolutely FREE

In your own interests you should get to know more about the IMPERIA KNITTER. Write to us now for the IMPERIA BOOK; don't hesitate, it is FREE, and tells everything you wish to know about this genuine money-earning hobby. Fullest details are given with beautiful illustrations in colour showing the knitted wear you can so easily turn out on the IMPERIA KNITTER. Use the Coupon below; post it now (a halfpenny envelope will do), or CALL IF YOU CAN. Our Showrooms are 91-97, GRAY'S INN ROAD, W.C.1 (opposite the "Daily Sketch"), WHERE FREE DEMONSTRATIONS ARE GIVEN DAILY. We know you will be interested, and it places you under no obligation.

COUPON

To secure the IMPERIA BOOK absolutely FREE.

Simply write your name and address on a piece of notepaper and pin this coupon to it. Please write very plainly and be careful to post to the address given below, as the Imperia Book cannot be had elsewhere.

Imperia Hosiery Mfg. Co., Ltd.
(Dept. J.B.), 91-97, GRAY'S INN ROAD, LONDON, W.C.1

A Holiday You Can Afford

"Keeps me up to the mark"!

MISS CARLITO ACKROYD, who delighted London audiences when playing in "The Beloved Vagabond" at the Duke of York's Theatre, *writes*:—

"I HAVE always found Phosferine most effective, and insist on my overworked friends taking it, too. Phosferine is best for vigour and zest, and keeps one right up to the mark. It is in the theatrical and film worlds to-day that women lead the most strenuous lives. With the present revival of British films, the majority of experienced actresses are working at high pressure for both stage and screen. This always means long and late periods of fatiguing rehearsal, full days at the studios, and then the theatrical production at night with dress fittings, charity shows and visits to photographers in between. There is no time for recreation, less for social diversions, and the only way to carry on all the time is by taking Phosferine, as I invariably do."
December 31*st*, 1927.

From the very first day you take PHOSFERINE you will gain new confidence, new life, new endurance. It makes you eat better, and you will look as fit as you feel. Phosferine is given with equally good results to the children.

TESTED JB

PHOSFERINE

THE GREATEST OF ALL TONICS FOR

Influenza	Neuralgia	Lassitude	Nerve Shock
Debility	Maternity Weakness	Neuritis	Malaria
Indigestion	Weak Digestion	Faintness	Rheumatism
Sleeplessness	Mental Exhaustion	Brain Fag	Headache
Exhaustion	Loss of Appetite	Anæmia	Sciatica

From Chemists. Tablets and Liquid. The 3/- size contains nearly four times the 1/3 size.
Aldwych

A GOOD SUIT FOR EASTER

We make you this Special Offer of a good tailor-made "Ready-to-Wear" Suit to prove our wonderful value. We offer you a well-tailored Suit, cut by experts in the latest style, with our guarantee of perfect fit and satisfaction in wear. Made of very fine quality Tweed in the latest shades. Single or Double-Breasted, 63/- on easy terms.

NO DEPOSIT

This offer is to all men in regular employment. Simply send your name and address only; (no deposit). State occupation. Give chest and inside leg measure, and suit is sent you carriage paid. Say which shade we shall send you—New Plum, Dark Grey, or Brown, and promise to pay 6/6 when you receive the suit, and 6/6 monthly, and you have it to wear while paying monthly.

Write for a suit to-day.

MASTERS, LTD.,
83, Hope Stores, RYE.

LEG TROUBLES BANISHED

Grasshopper Ointment is a positive cure for leg troubles caused through Varicose Ulcers. There is no leg too bad, and no matter what you have tried—"*Grasshopper*" *will cure.*

Brief points selected from thousands of testimonials.

A bad leg of 26 years' standing was cured in six weeks.—Grangetown, Cardiff. *Ulcerated leg for 9 years. No relief from medical man or hospital. Cured with Grasshopper Ointment.*—Moss Side, Manchester.

GRASSHOPPER OINTMENT

Obtainable from Chemists everywhere at 1/3, or three times the quantity for 3/-. If any difficulty in obtaining, send direct.
GRASSHOPPER Ltd. (Dept. F.) 25 North Rd., Holloway, London, N.7

2/- NOW and THE BIKE IS YOURS

I OFFER to readers of "John Bull" first-class Coventry-built cycles at POUNDS BELOW usual prices.

Absolutely GENUINE REDUCTIONS have been made in thousands of brand new, fully guaranteed 1928 Models, any of which I will send on 14 DAYS' APPROVAL, CARRIAGE PAID, on receipt of small deposit only.

Testimonials from everywhere in Great Britain. Satisfaction or money refunded. MY FREE LISTS will convince you, so write NOW for a copy and CHOOSE YOUR CYCLE FROM THE LARGEST SELECTION IN THE WORLD.

Edward **O'Brien** Ltd
THE WORLD'S LARGEST CYCLE DEALERS, DEPT. 9 COVENTRY.

"IT seems to me a monstrous thing, an immoral thing, that land which nobody has created and which should be for the equal use of all . . . should be appropriated by a few to the exclusion of the great mass of the people."—MR. SNOWDEN IN A RECENT SPEECH.

Winston's New Baby

by **The Right Hon. PHILIP SNOWDEN, M.P.**

MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL has just discovered that there is a rating problem. With the enthusiasm of the new convert he has elevated this question to the foremost place in his financial programme. He now regards the relief of local rates as more urgent and important than a reduction of the income-tax.

If Mr. Churchill has now seen the error of his ways, and is really anxious to do something to relieve the burden of local rates, his belated conversion will be welcomed. But his recent speech in the House of Commons on this question showed that he neither understands the problem nor does he intend to deal with it in this Parliament.

Mr. Churchill's idea seems to be to put on the National Exchequer, when he has a Budget surplus, some part of the cost of social services which is now borne by the local rates. If we are to wait till Mr. Churchill has that novel experience we may abandon hope of relief.

There is a case for transferring to the National Exchequer the cost of such services as the Poor Law, unemployment relief, the main roads, and increased assistance for public health and education. But unless, when this is done, the whole system of local rating is changed, the result will be to give the whole benefit to the ground landlords.

Monstrous monopoly

The landowner has a monopoly of what individuals and the community must use. He can exact the utmost the users of the land can afford to pay. If they get relief in any direction, or if from any cause, such as increased production, their capacity to pay is increased, the landlord can command a higher rent.

The main factors which determine the economic rent of land—that is, its unimproved value—are the extent of the people's need of the land and the productive capacity of the population.

As land is limited in area, every increase in the population increases the demand for its use for one purpose or another, and this increased demand sends up its value.

Every scientific discovery which aids production; every economy in business organisation; every improvement carried out at the public expense; every road made, which makes land more accessible; everything which adds to the amenities of communal life, such as improved transport, electrical development, parks, schools, and improved housing, increases site values.

In order to remove a widespread misunderstanding as to the meaning of "site value," let me explain what it means. The site value is the unimproved value of the land—that is, the price the land would fetch without any buildings upon it, or without any capital having been spent upon improving it.

Importance of cheap land

The site value is wholly a social product. It is created by the existence and the activity of the community. It is, therefore, morally and economically the property of the community.

The taxation and rating of site values has this supreme advantage over most forms of taxation. The tax cannot be shifted on to the user or consumer. It will be paid in full by the owner of the site.

Most taxes add to the price of the taxed commodity. But the effect of a tax or rate on site value will cheapen the price of the land. It will do that because the tax or rate will force land into the market.

Cheaper land will encourage building, and the use of land for allotments and small holdings. That will materially help to solve the unemployment problem.

At present, unused land is not rated at all, and there is a vast amount of land which has a high potential building value which is rated at a nominal figure.

Extortionate demands

Glaring instances of this often come to light when a public authority seeks to acquire land for some public purpose. From twenty to twenty-five times the annual rental of land is considered to be a fair purchase price.

Yet for one school site the Sheffield Corporation had to pay 820 years' purchase price on the rateable value; for land for street widening, 846 years' purchase, and for a playing-field for the children, 267 years' purchase!

A notorious, but not exceptional, instance is that of an experience of the Leeds Corporation. It wanted to acquire 400 acres of moorland for waterworks purposes. This land was assessed at 10s. an acre for rating purposes. On this valuation its capital value was about £4,000. The owners demanded £196,000. Even the arbitrator awarded £46,000.

The Glasgow Corporation wanted 60 yards of land for street improvement. The owner asked £700. He was awarded £122, and the arbitration proceedings cost the Corporation £1,052!

If we had an assessment of the true site value of all land, we should have not only a just basis for rating, but a register of the capital value of each site. When the public wanted to acquire a site they would pay this value, and thus avoid the extortion which is practised to-day.

I would like to give a few instances of how land appreciates in value as the population grows and trade and industry are developed.

In 1922 the Liverpool Corporation paid £235,000 for under 1¼ acres of land, which was part of the land sold by the Corporation to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1705 for £10!

Double burden

In recent years, prices ranging from the rate of a million to a million and a half pounds an acre have been paid by the Liverpool Corporation for land needed for public purposes.

The local rates are burdened in two ways by this iniquitous land system. They lose heavily by the gross under-assessment of a great proportion of the land, and they have to bear inflated capital charges on the land acquired.

The system of a separate valuation of the site and the improvements (including the buildings) is widely operated over the British Dominions. In New Zealand, 51 out of 123 counties, 74 out of 118 boroughs, and 17 out of 31 town districts are on the land-value basis for rating purposes.

The most outstanding instance of this system is the City of Sydney, N.S.W. The latest year for which I have been able to obtain the figures is 1926. In that year, a rate of 3½d. in the pound was levied on unimproved capital value, and this realised £656,000, which covered the whole of the annual expenditure of the City Corporation.

Since this system was adopted, Sydney has grown to be the second largest city in the British Empire, its population having grown from 500,000 to 1,100,000 in the last fifteen years.

The new Australian city of Canberra is the latest to adopt the system of deriving its local revenue solely from land values. This system has also been extensively adopted by the Provincial Governments in Canada.

The Rt. Hon. Philip Snowden, M.P.

Convincing statistics

I would like to quote a paragraph from a pamphlet by that able and enthusiastic advocate of the taxation of land values, Colonel Josiah Wedgwood, which gives, from the records of New Zealand, an idea of the vast wealth there is in the site value of a thriving community:

"The unique land-value statistics from New Zealand enable one to trace the growth of land values from £62,000,000 in 1878 to £339,000,000 in 1925. The growth of land values goes on steadily at the rate of about £20,000,000 a year. The land value per head of the population has risen in the same time from £129 to £241. Of the £339,000,000 of total land value of New Zealand, £232,000,000 are to be found in the counties and £107,000,000 in the boroughs and town districts."

If the land values of Great Britain bore the same proportion to the population as they do in New Zealand, the total unimproved value of our land would be *eleven thousand million pounds.*

Even if the total capital value per head of the population were only half that of New Zealand, a modest tax or rate of 3d. in the pound would realise over £60,000,000 a year. But, of course, in the absence of an official valuation such estimates can only be approximate.

The first step to take is to re-establish the Land Valuation Department, and then to put in hand a national valuation. Such a valuation should show the unimproved or site value of all land and the improved value of the land. The valuation should be kept up to date, and all land should be revalued at least every five years.

Injustice removed

Having secured the valuation of the unimproved sites, powers should be given to the local authorities to levy a special rate upon the capital value of the unimproved land.

This system will enable rates to be taken off buildings and improvements. It will relieve industry, and lessen the costs of production. If accompanied, as it should be, by a plan for making the rating areas wider, it will remove the present injustice which the poorer districts suffer.

In my only Budget speech I gave a very definite pledge that if I were in office the next year I would introduce a scheme for the taxation of land values. I had such a scheme in an active state of preparation.

Whatever else the next Labour Government may attempt, it is quite certain it will deal with the question of the rating and taxation of land values.

Make your home *Beautiful*

SIMPLICITY is the keynote of the modern home. It saves the labour involved by complicated decorations and produces delightful effects; but the essential charm of a beautiful home lies in its freshness and cleanliness. It costs no more to use the best soap, and Sunlight is supreme not only in purity, but also because of the time it saves.

Use Sunlight throughout the house—it leaves everything so sweet and fresh.

This sketch will provide many suggestions in the arrangement of furniture and pictures. The following points will especially be noticed:—

A dark floor shows up the beauties of a good carpet. . . .

Light cheerful walls. . . .

The sun let in—not too much drapery over the window. . . .

The minimum of purposeless objects. . . .

Table in centre having air of solidarity—is easily cleaned. . . .

Free passage round room. . . .

Absence of dust traps. . . .

SUNLIGHT SOAP

S. 549-109 LEVER BROTHERS LIMITED, PORT SUNLIGHT.

Candid Communications

Outspoken Messages to Celebrities, Notorieties and, occasionally, Nonentities

To H.R.H. The PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., K.T., Marlborough House, S.W.

Your Royal Highness,—In pointing out that "Capital is the lubricant which oils the machinery of commerce, and the more freely it circulates the more its beneficial action is felt down to the last cog of the smallest wheel," you have reminded the country of a great truth. I hope the moral will be taken to heart and that, from the Government downwards, capital will once more circulate freely in British coal-fields, where at present restricted output of every shape and kind is bringing untold distress. John Bull.

To the Rt. Hon. STANLEY BALDWIN, M.P., 10, Downing Street, S.W.

Dear Sir,—The appalling number of persons on trial for their lives at the present moment is a sharp reminder of the futility of capital punishment. The terror of the death sentence lies heavy on every judge. Lawyers term it "an antique and horrible formula." In fact, the scaffold brings anguish and suffering of every sort to the innocent and utterly fails to prevent murder. Bring in a Government Bill to abolish it and make a lasting name for yourself. John Bull.

To Rt. Hon. Sir L. WORTHINGTON-EVANS, M.P., Minister of War.

Dear Sir,—Though I am out for economy, I hold it would be an outrage to curtail the proportion of soldiers allowed to take their wives and families abroad with them. The curse of the Army is that it prevents so many men from living a natural life. The critics who claim that the abolition of the privilege would add to the efficiency of the machine can be ignored, since their stupidity is matched only by their inhumanity. John Bull.

To Rt. Hon. Sir W. MITCHELL-THOMSON, M.P., Postmaster-General.

Dear Sir,—With the object of cutting down the telegraph staff, three score men in the Glasgow G.P.O. were invited to retire at the age of fifty-five instead of sixty. As, in addition to a pension, each man on retirement is entitled to a year's salary as a bonus, which in these cases it was proposed to withhold, small wonder that only two availed themselves of the opportunity. Better to have paid than be overstaffed for another five years, with the certainty of having to part up in the end. John Bull.

To the Rt. Hon. DAVID LLOYD GEORGE, M.P., Addison Road, W.

Dear Sir,—From a street of twenty houses to the acre in the Royal Borough of Kensington you passed to streets with 400 houses to the acre and whole families herded in each dark, damp, squalid room. You saw children, pretty and cheerful, in appalling conditions that in a few years break their stamina and sound their death-knell. Your description of slums as "Bolshevik munition factories" is none too strong. They are a horrible menace that shrieks to heaven for removal. But why didn't you do it when you had the chance and the power? John Bull.

To the Rt. Hon. JOHN WHEATLEY, M.P., Tollcross, Glasgow.

Dear Sir,—You told Parliament that if Members were forced to endure what hundreds of thousands went through in France—be bayoneted on the floor of the House, or watch from the terrace the bombing of women and children—there would be less respect for the engineers of warfare. Though your remarks were greeted with exclamations of protest, you reached the heart of the whole matter. Were those who want war forced to do the fighting they might quickly change their minds. John Bull.

To the Rt. Hon. ARTHUR HENDERSON, M.P., Eccleston Square, S.W.

Dear Sir,—Is it not passing strange that the Labour Party, the main plank of whose platform is equality for all, should deny the right of the wives of trade unionists to vote on strikes? After all, they and their children are the chief sufferers, and that they should have no voice in the matter seems to me a grave injustice. Whatever justification have you for such a point of view? John Bull.

To General Sir IAN HAMILTON, G.B.E., G.C.M.G., Hyde Park Gardens, W.

Gallant Sir,—"I used to love war, but now I want to stop it." This, coming from so eminent a soldier, should do much to counteract the pernicious propaganda of the militarists. I join with you in advocating the withdrawal of our troops from the Rhine, as I am sure this would go far to convince Germany of the sincerity of our desire to live at amity with the world. John Bull.

To Dr. ERIC PRITCHARD, Infants' Hospital, Vincent Square, S.W.

Dear Sir,—You think it is "one of the most depressing sights in the world to see our elementary school children trying to retain their health and vigour on miserable asphalt playing-grounds." So do I, and ours is practically the only country where one can see it. Other countries have more wit. They keep their land for their people and the children benefit. John Bull.

To the DIRECTORS, Jersey Eastern Railway Company.

Gentlemen,—After forty years of service in your company, Mr. Mauviel, stationmaster at Grève d'Azette, is retiring. His wages during all that time have afforded no margin for old age and yet you provide no pension. That honest worth should, at the end of a long life of faithful service, be thrown upon public charity is shameful—and I am ashamed of you. John Bull.

To Mr. BEN TURNER, O.B.E., Chairman, General Council, Trades Union Congress.

Dear Sir,—If the scheme of the congress to organise the unemployed helps them to obtain work, it will have functioned wisely and well. Should its motive be purely political, it is doomed to failure. Many workers need special training to fit them for the expanding industries, and it is in this direction that your energies should be aimed. I look to you to prevent the organisation of misery for Party purposes. John Bull.

To Mr. F. C. BODEN, The Derbyshire Miner Poet.

Dear Sir,—Life in the mines has not dimmed your eyes to the beauty of the skies nor the music of the earth, but you see little of either in mining villages. You write: "There on the slag-heaps, where no bird poises, My fellows' wan children tumble and climb. . . . Playing with thin white faces, cheated of life's graces, *born for the mines.*" Terrible words, that should be read by all those legislating for mining areas. John Bull.

Straight from the Shoulder

Mr. Baldwin:—"I have been too long in politics to look for a new heaven and a new earth."

Then why not try to improve the small patch you were elected to work in?

* * *

Mr. Churchill:—"England still has power to help a friend or pay a debt."

Then why doesn't she help the miners and pay back their debt?

* * *

Mr. J. B. Burman, M.P.:—"You can't make Acts of Parliament that will protect idiots."

That's no reason why idiots should make Acts of Parliament that don't protect sensible people.

* * *

Rev. Paul Green:—"It is considered impolite to discuss sin."

Great preachers don't consider what is impolite or polite. They preach.

WHAT WAS YOURS IS MINE, AND WHAT ISN'T MINE IS MY OWN
(Old saying adapted)

I've forgotten *I ever had any* nerves

THE business girl of to-day often finds the strain of speedy, accurate work a severe tax on her nervous energy. And nerve strain quickly brings fatigue—inability to concentrate.

Many office workers—men as well as women—now regularly use Wrigley's Chewing Sweets to relieve nervous tension. Your doctor will tell you how the act of chewing relaxes and soothes frayed nerves—how the healthful cleansing action of Wrigley's refreshes and tones you up all round.

Wrigley's gently stimulates the flow of natural juices. It aids digestion, cleanses the teeth, firms the gums, sweetens the breath—removes the last traces of eating, drinking or smoking.

No other sweet does so much or costs so little.

MR. HAYLAND HEARTY—EVERYBODY'S FRIEND

"I hear that Shredded Wheat is very popular with Miners"

Miner: You're right there. It's good stuff.

Mr. Hayland Hearty: Is it true that you men take Shredded Wheat down in the pits with you for your lunch?

Miner: A lot of us do. It's handy to have a food down there that you can eat straight away without any fuss and bother. And the missus doesn't have to cook it either.

Mr. Hayland Hearty: There are not many men who have harder work to do than you miners. You've got a job which none of us envy and if you say that you can work well on Shredded Wheat that seems to me as good a recommendation for it that I've ever heard.

Miner: You can tell anyone you like from me that Shredded Wheat is "the goods." I eat it for breakfast as well as for lunch and I always feel I've had a good meal. What's more, it's cheap. A lot of these other foods would make a pretty hole in a miner's wage. But Shredded Wheat isn't much of an outlay and you get plenty for your money.

Mr. Hayland Hearty: I am delighted to hear your opinion of Shredded Wheat. It is very gratifying to learn that men like yourselves are regular users of an absolutely pure food, which is made from the entire wheat, and which I am fully convinced is unsurpassed for the working man. Good-day and the best of luck to you both.

WRIGLEY'S

SHREDDED WHEAT

100% FOOD

EIGHTPENCE
(*In U.K. only*)

"The Vitamin Breakfast"

If you have not tried Shredded Wheat write for free trial packet, The Shredded Wheat Co., Ltd., (Dept. 26) Welwyn Garden City Herts

Without Fear or Favour—by the Editor

WHO STOLE BRITAIN?

A FAR-FLUNG CHALLENGE

Ourselves and Mr. Snowden

THE article by Mr. Snowden on page 15 has an importance that can hardly be estimated. It is more than an ordinary article; it is a definite political pronouncement that sets out the policy of a Party that has every chance of being the Government of this country at no very distant date.

While we are in entire agreement with Mr. Snowden that the question of land values is paramount, we are not wholly with him on the ways in which he proposes to tackle it.

Land is of no value until human beings have worked on it, built on it, driven roads and railways through it, and made it valuable. The ever-increasing value of land is communally created value and should be used to benefit the community.

Mr. Snowden, however, proposes to re-establish the Land Valuation Department and so create yet another horde of bureaucratic officials in a country already overrun by such gentlemen.

That is where we part company with him. We do not see the necessity for this horde of officials, this long and laborious valuation of the country's land that would be, owing to the ever-increasing value, inaccurate long before it was completed.

Local rating of land value will, in any case, still leave the burdens to be carried by the same persons as at present, would still be a burden on industry, and would still leave necessitous areas *bankrupt*.

WE would tackle the land problem in a much simpler way. We would pass a very short Act of Parliament stating that on a certain date the whole of the land in this country shall be deemed to revert to the people of this country as a whole. It was done with men's lives just as simply as that. It can be done with the people's land just as simply as that.

What we suggest is that the landowner be compelled to make a return of his land values just as the merchant or manufacturer is compelled to make a return of his profits for income-tax purposes, with penalties for false returns. We then suggest that the State should collect the rent of the land for the people.

It is the land *rent* we want, for it is ours by *right*.

Some day all the land will revert to the people, for that is simple justice. To-day, at any rate, let us take sufficient to enable us to pay *all* the charges at present raised by local authorities—namely, £150,000,000 per annum—and abolish the present iniquitous rating system altogether.

ON Mr. Snowden's figures, 4d. in the pound on the capital value or 8s. in the pound of the annual land rent will relieve every ratepayer of the *whole* burden of local rates.

And it can be done so easily. A clause in the Budget would state that on a given date a percentage of the land rent shall be collected in order to provide money to abolish all local rates.

But where we differ profoundly from Mr. Snowden is that we are not supremely interested in any question of site values. We are interested in the much simpler, much more vital question of the land as land.

It is the land we want. We want it all and we want all of it now. When we get that it is time to consider the best methods of obtaining the annual value of it for the community. The first essential is to get it.

We wish to dispossess no one. We wish to compensate no one. Since no one is going to be dispossessed, there is no need for compensation. We wish everyone to have as much land as he can afford to rent from the State.

We are bound to confess that Mr. Snowden has not apparently put forward any suggestion that would ensure the land belonging to the people. Yet that is the core of the whole problem.

The Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill, M.P., who, as soon as he found that to tackle rating meant tackling the land, ran away from the problem

SAFEGUARDING THE WORKER

A Challenge to Industry

TEN years ago the Industrial Welfare Society came into being. The work which it took over was begun before that. During the war, when to those engaged in it mass production of war material in the greatest possible quantities during the shortest possible time appeared imperative, work was speeded up and every worker urged to the maximum of output.

The pressure brought unforeseen results. The human machine cannot be driven to the point of regarding it as a mechanism only without trouble ensuing.

Problems of health arose. There were other difficulties connected with transport, feeding, housing, wise or unwise handling of *personnel*, and working conditions which became acute.

The human side of labour, even in these inhuman and abnormal circumstances, made itself felt. The Minister of Munitions himself felt compelled to establish a welfare department. It met with success; so much so that when the war ended men who knew could not bear to see it end.

But here, after intimate conferences with employers and labour leaders, an unfortunate decision was arrived at. It was concluded that all these matters should, when peace came, "be done voluntarily by employers rather than await the compelling hand of the State."

In terming the decision unfortunate we do not, in the slightest degree, belittle the work of the Industrial Welfare Society as at present constituted. It has held hundreds of meetings of all kinds. It has addressed employers' federations, trade unions, gatherings of workpeople and town conferences.

Yet the fact remains that, after ten years' working and 10,000 visits paid to the heads of firms, out of the vast organisation of this great industrial country only 800 manufacturing firms have joined the society.

That is the damning fact against voluntaryism where the life, health and safety of the workers is concerned. It is not good enough.

Nearly all the daylight hours of the toiler are spent at work. His leisure hours are few, for most, away from workshop or factory, must be spent in sleep. He has a right to be happy and reasonably safe at his work, not only when away from it.

Statistics show that these things are secured by voluntaryism only in rare cases.

The Industrial Welfare Society would crown its ten years' service if it embodied its findings and insisted that the Government took back the work in order to see it enforced.

THE ACID TEST

Loafing as a Profession

LAZINESS in the able-bodied adult is abominable. In savage tribes it would speedily revenge itself by starvation. In civilised communities, where the amenities of life are organised and easily available, it is a crime.

We pick no quarrel, therefore, with the Casual Wards Committee of the Metropolitan Asylums Board in its denunciation of the "able-bodied loafer who deliberately intends to exist without working."

He is worse than a nuisance. He is a menace to the community, which for humanity's sake is forced to keep him. Workhouses, of recent years, have been improved for casuals.

At Belmont, for instance, inmates were found "quite settled and comfortable, well housed, well fed, with excellent provision for amusement and recreation."

Of men admitted to Belmont since October, 1926, many have been readmitted time and again, evidently regarding the place as a holiday centre, while thirty-nine have never left at all, and it looks as though some of the younger men are settling down in those bachelor quarters to become a permanent charge on the rates.

This sort of thing is happening all over the country, and it cannot be tolerated. But we do not believe the remedy to lie in reintroducing the "deterrent" task of stone-breaking.

We strenuously oppose punishing poverty by cruelty. We protest against "tasks" that leave men with hands "broken to pieces, so cut and bruised that they can barely feed themselves." We agree with Mr. G. Brittain that it is "beastly and inhuman."

The workless and the work-shy cannot, however, be distinguished until unemployment is solved. So long as that question is not even tackled, Belmont and kindred institutions will remain a problem for which harassed ratepayers must continue to foot the bill.

Two Frauds a Minute

by A. G. GARDINER

NO greater evil ever existed than the present system of industrial assurance. It robs the poorest and most helpless part of the community. And the Government, whose duty it is to prevent exploitation and injustice, does nothing! What does it fear?

Mr. A. M. Samuel, M.P., Financial Secretary to the Treasury, who persists in maintaining that there is no need for an enquiry into the appalling scandal of industrial assurance!

IT is as true to-day as ever it was that if you steal the goose from off the common you will get six months, but that if you steal the common from the goose you will get into Society and perhaps even into the House of Lords. Our punitive system works inflexibly against the individual offender; against the collective offender it breaks down.

For years JOHN BULL has been hammering at the monstrous scandals of industrial assurance. Through its agency thousands of poor people throughout the country have had restitution made to them. But it is only a drop in the ocean.

For one victim who gets justice done to him (or more often her) there are a thousand who are fleeced as helplessly as sheep. It must always be so while the system lasts. It is the system which is wrong, and it is against the system that JOHN BULL has conducted, and will continue to conduct, its lonely crusade.

Millions lost

Let us take one fact to indicate the magnitude of this exploitation of the poor. Last year, one assurance company alone lapsed, in round figures, 1,400,000 policies out of which only 198,700 received free policies. That is to say, this single institution lapsed 143 policies every hour—two a minute.

At a conservative estimate, the face value of these policies was £15,000,000. At an equally conservative estimate, the premiums paid on the policies was £5,000,000. Every penny of that vast sum was lost to the insured. Every penny went into the exchequer of the company.

That is the case in bulk. Let us look at it in the terms of individual suffering and wrong. I will take a few typical cases which are before me.

Mrs. Penelope Duggan held eighteen policies, upon which approximately £79 had been paid in premiums which continued until 1926, when the policies were lapsed. As she was in dire distress, she made application for a cash surrender value. This was refused, and free policies to the value of £40 were offered.

Useless offer

This was of no use, for the woman was in immediate need of money for medical service and other necessities. Personal appeal was made to the company for a few pounds in lieu of the free policies. It was refused.

In April, 1901, a policy was taken out on the life of Benjamin Young, and premiums paid amounted to £68, the face-value of the policy being £25. In this case, the transaction was illegal from its inception, and when the policy lapsed the company refused to return any of the £68 paid in premiums.

The matter was taken up by JOHN BULL, and in the end the company conceded the woman £12 in absolute surrender.

Mrs. Munday, of Eastwood, paid premiums on nine policies for a number of years at the rate of 2s. 8d. per week, the total premiums paid being £67 18s. 4d. The policy on her mother-in-law was taken out thirteen years ago at a premium of 7d. per week. The total premiums paid on this policy were £19 13s. 4d., the policy itself being valued at only £6 13s.

Owing to unemployment, the payments fell into arrears and the policies have been lapsed. *No return whatever has been given.* The assured mother-in-law is now on her death-bed.

Drab glimpses, these, into the life of the very poor. Multiply them by the thousand and the ten thousand, and you have some measure of the magnitude of the wrong. It is a wrong perpetrated at the expense of the poorest and most helpless part of the community, whose protection against exploitation and injustice should be the first duty of the Government.

When companies surrender

The duty is the more urgent, because the victims are not the wastrels of the underworld. They are the thrifty and self-respecting poor who week by week and year by year put by a trifle in the expectation that they are safeguarding themselves.

Then comes a wave of bad trade, a breakdown of health or some domestic trouble. The resources are dried up, the policy lapses, and they are left bankrupt, while their little savings have gone to swell the monstrous balance-sheets of the companies.

It is no answer to say that when the victim of this colossal system of petty pilfering puts his case into competent hands he usually gets some satisfaction. That is true. When confronted with the peril of exposure the companies surrender. That has been so in multitudes of cases that JOHN BULL has taken up.

The companies have had experience of the danger of going into the courts and will not repeat it at any cost. But the vast mass of people with legal or moral claims are ignorant of their rights and isolated. They have no common defence fund, and they are fleeced in detail.

Conspiracy of silence

It is the system that is to blame, and it is the system against which this journal has waged ceaseless war.

No one suggests that industrial assurance has not done good service. But it has done it at an extravagant cost to its beneficiaries, and at a shameful profit to itself.

It has grown rich beyond the dreams of avarice on the millions of lapsed policies that have fallen into its lap. In setting out to help the poor, it has ground the faces of the poor.

Why does this iniquity go on year after year? It goes on because the industrial assurance system has become a stupendous vested interest which defies attack. Its political influence and its wealth are so great that both the politicians and the Press prefer to ignore it.

Even the Labour Party, which might be supposed to have a special interest in the well-being of the very poor, finds it convenient to pass by on the other side.

This conspiracy of silence must be broken down. I have asked in these columns before for the appointment of a Royal Commission to enquire into the whole working of this system of industrial assurance. I repeat that plea now. Let us have a searchlight turned upon the facts, and a square deal given to the thrifty poor.

Will T

"Hellish conditions" are the words used to describe some present-day living conditions. Yet politicians are content to talk; action seems beyond them.

THE Right Hon. J. H. Thomas, M.P., has been visiting the slums of his constituency and what he saw has apparently hit him with all the force of a new discovery; which is rather surprising in view of the fact that Mr. Thomas has been for many years Member for Derby, and slums in Derby are not a new development.

The Rt. Hon. J. H. Thomas, M.P.

I have not space here to detail all that shocked the ex-Colonial Secretary. Two items are enough. In one house he found an ex-Service man with seven children living — existing — in one room. In another house he found girls of eighteen, sixteen and eleven years of age and a boy of fourteen all sleeping in the same bed. Can you expect morality to survive such conditions? he asks, in effect, and the Minister of Health would probably reply that the answer is in the negative.

It is, however, with a declaration made by Mr. Thomas as a result of his slum experiences that I desire to deal now.

"Every decent man," he said, "will say that no sacrifice is too great to remove such hellish conditions and such a scandal."

I have no doubt as to the willingness of all decent men to make that declaration, but I have yet to see the willingness to make the sacrifice. Talk may drug a politician into the belief that he is doing something, but talk alone will not improve the condition of one slum-dweller in Britain.

THE conditions which horrified Mr. Thomas are not peculiar to Derby. They may be paralleled in almost every city and town in Britain. Slums are not a new, but an old, problem, with which all our politicians who are worth their salt are familiar.

I have talked with many of them about it. No doubt there are few who do not agree that "no sacrifice can be too great, etc.," but when they talk in this fashion I always think that they either talk with their tongues in their cheeks or that they do not know the meaning of the word "sacrifice."

They talk, but what do they *do*? There is a passage in the King's Speech on the last pro-

Put Them in the Pillory!

by E. ROFFE THOMPSON

***PROFITEERING** is one of the worst of crimes, for it withholds the necessities of life from the people who need those necessities most. Let us make "Prison for Profiteers" such a slogan that authority will be forced to act*

ONE of the most extraordinary announcements recently made in the Press was tucked away in a tiny corner the other day. It was probably not seen by most people, but it raised in a few lines the whole outrageous position with regard to profiteering.

It merely stated: "The enquiry into the prices of market-garden produce is not likely to be held by the Food Council."

Somebody is clearly anxious to hide something. Somebody is plainly frightened of what may be revealed if such an enquiry were held, and in some mysterious way the enquiry has been shelved.

The announcement serves to put the last brick on the monumental edifice of failure that the Food Council has succeeded in rearing during its existence. It has cost the taxpayers over £10,000; it has held sixty-nine meetings and examined 200 witnesses; it has issued eight reports in four years—three on bread, the others on short weight, milk, meat and fish. The result of all its enquiries and its examination of witnesses and all the money it has spent is precisely nothing.

Growing scandal

It began its activities in 1924 and to-day the prices of most staple articles of food are slightly higher than when it began. Nobody takes the slightest notice of it. The bakers openly flout its decisions. The fishmongers laugh at it, and the profiteers in fruit and vegetables manage somehow or another to stop it even enquiring at all.

Yet the scandal of profiteering grows and grows. The other day 5,000 stone of cod and haddock was sold at Fleetwood for £300. This works out at almost exactly 1d. per pound. The cost of carriage from Fleetwood is ¼d. per pound. Yet shortly after this consignment of fish was sold, notices were to be read in shops round about the district: "Fish is cheaper to-day; cod 1s. per pound, haddock 7d. per pound."

How does the Food Council, which investigated the price of fish and found no profiteering, explain this vast difference in price? No wonder people laugh at the Food Council!

Take the case of fruit. A man in Spalding had some Bramley apples and could have sold them in Spalding at 2s. per stone. They were sent away to London for sale on commission to a well-known London salesman. 225 stone (3,150 lbs.) were sent, and the grower received for this vast quantity of apples £3 9s. 1d.

Disgraceful profiteering

If he had sold them in Spalding as he could have done he would have got £22 10s. In London the apples were sold for £8 16s. 6d., but the various charges the grower had to pay were £5 7s. 5d.

Commenting on this extraordinary transaction a local paper said: "Just think of it. Over 1 ton 8 cwt. of apples, and Bramleys too, for £3 9s. 1d. It works out at just over ¼d. per pound, and we shall be surprised if the London housewife does not have to pay 6d. a pound for them.

"This fruit-grower has only to walk a few yards from his door and see Bramley apples marked at 2s. 6d. per stone. Another shop a little further on has them at 2s. 9d., and a third shop sells best Bramleys at 3s. per stone. The grower gets just over 3¼d. per stone and he has no remedy."

A man recently bought a pound of grapes in a London shop. They cost him 4s. 9d. As it happened, the shop had left the grower's name on the grapes and he wrote to the growers and asked them how much they had got for these grapes. This is the reply he received:

"The highest price that our commission-agents in Covent Garden have had lately for grapes of this kind has been 2s. 3d. per pound. We have known grapes sold at 3¾ times the price paid for them in the market."

You could multiply these instances endlessly.

Lord Bradbury, G.C.B., Chairman of the Food Council

Can anyone pretend that prices like these represent a fair profit? Can anyone pretend that they represent anything at all except sheer extortionate profiteering? Yet "the enquiry into the prices of market-garden produce is not likely to be held by the Food Council"!

Then in the name of Heaven why do we keep the egregious Food Council in existence? What useful functions does it serve?

Even an official of the Council itself said recently: "So far as the Council is concerned we are merely in the position of a barking dog keeping away burglars—although these alleged burglars are perfectly aware that we have no teeth."

Deserved punishment

Surely the only common-sense course for Mr. Baldwin and the Cabinet to take is either to invest the Food Council with some real powers or stop what has become a pure farce and a waste of public money.

Or if the Cabinet could only be brought to realise the extent to which the evil of profiteering has gone and the grip it has obtained on the life of this country, it might revive some of the meritorious punishments for profiteering in which they indulged in "the good old days."

Woe betide any butcher of those days who sold bad meat. Woe betide the baker who sold bread under weight, or the brewer who sold adulterated beer.

The punishment was that "for the first, second and third time shall be amerced according to the offence if it be not over grievous, but if grievous and often shall suffer punishment of the body, that is to wit, a baker to the pillory and a brewer to the tumbril (or some other correction), also if they have in the town a pillory of convenient strength"!

The worst crime

If bread was found to be but a farthing lacking in weight the baker was forthwith put into the pillory. If a baker should sell oatmeal the slightest degree adulterated, for the first offence he was "grievously punished," for the second offence he lost his meal, for the third offence he went into the pillory. If he was so foolish as to offend again he was expelled from the town.

In the "good old days" they put profiteers in prison; they set them in the pillory; they caused them to forfeit all their goods; they dealt with them as they ought to be dealt with to-day—as criminals against society.

The crime of the profiteer is that he holds the poor to ransom for the very necessities of life.

If our legislators looked after the people as they should look after them they would catch the modern profiteers and put them in prison without more ado.

y Do It?

by ARNOLD FREEMAN HOLT

ogation of Parliament which made the definite tatement that "substantial progress is also eing made with the clearance of insanitary areas nd the rehousing of displaced tenants."

"SUBSTANTIAL progress"! Let us call Mr. Neville Chamberlain to give evidence s to what is "substantial progress" in the eyes of he members of His Majesty's Cabinet.

Speaking at the annual dinner of the British Medical Association in October, 1927, he stated hat, during the past year, only eight schemes of lum-clearance, affecting between 900 and 1,000 ouses, were submitted by local authorities for pproval by the Ministry of Health.

Such a snail's progress will hardly keep up with he rate at which new slums are created; certainly will in no effective way meet the urgent demand or slum-clearance.

If it is not speeded up the politicians elected y our great-grandchildren will be blethering bout the slum problem, in much the same ay as do the politicians of to-day.

Politicians and their Parties may come and go, ut the breed survives—as does the blether.

I have been reading a letter from the secretary the National Housing Council. He points out that year by year the reports of the medical officers of health insist on the disastrous consequences arising from the accumulation of abuses, due to the age of houses, decay, dilapidation, lack of proper sanitation and vermin.

Little has been done—in spite of the Cabinet's "substantial progress"—to abate the squalor, the filth and the wretchedness of the slum areas.

He points out that the clearance of a slum and the rehousing of the tenants must inevitably involve some financial loss; but the politicians say, with Mr. Thomas, that every decent man must agree that *no* sacrifice is too great to remove such a scandal.

THERE is one way in which I would like to test their sincerity.

Is there one among them who would go against the Party whips in the cause of the slums?

That, perhaps, is a sacrifice too much to expect of the politicians.

They will willingly pay lip-service to the cause of the slum-dwellers, but prefer to "earn" their £400 a year by dutiful obedience to the crack of the Party whip and by a well-regulated emission of Party gas.

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J. B., London, N.W.1.
17th Jan., 1928.

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SHOCKING RATE SCANDAL

MONEY FOR NOTHING!

The Torchlight Town

FEW people can be found who have a good word to say about the rates they pay. Rates are usually regarded as being, and usually are, too high.

The majority of ratepayers, however, do get certain services performed for them in return for the rates they pay, and in that respect have little need to grumble.

Our sympathy goes out more particularly to the people who have to pay rates and get nothing in return.

Many of our readers have sent along complaints with regard to this matter. Taplow may be quoted as an illustration.

This Thames-side village is about twenty miles from London, and yet it has no central drainage system, no system of refuse collection, no system of street lighting.

Missing services

In spite of the lack of even the most elementary of municipal services, however, ratepayers are not only called upon to pay heavy rates for the services they do not get, but have actually to pay private individuals for the services the local authority ought to provide, but does not.

The case of one householder may be given as an illustration. This man pays one guinea weekly as rent. The rates at Taplow are 6s. 2d. in the pound, so that every year he must find £16 odd per annum on top of his rent.

But even then he has not finished paying for the honour of living in Taplow.

As there is no central drainage system, he has to employ a contractor to empty the cesspool at his house and keep it clean. That adds another £6 per year to the cost of living.

Other residents are placed in the same position, for we are not quoting an isolated case.

In exactly the same way the accumulation of household refuse has to be disposed of by the householder, and he is put to the trouble and expense of employing a local contractor to see that his dust-bins are emptied regularly.

In addition he must provide himself with an electric torch or lamp if he wishes to find his way about Taplow in the dark.

Natural question

And still he has to pay over £16 per year in rates! Is it any wonder that he asks—indignantly—for what he is paying? Is it not a scandal that the local authorities abstain from providing the elementary requirements of a decent communal existence?

Not that Taplow is alone in its abstention from progress. There is, for instance, White Waltham, a parish in the Cookham Rural District, three miles outside Maidenhead. Besides the village of White Waltham there is a large colony of bungalows and houses at Heywood Park.

Here the ratepayers have to pay a general rate of 4s. 10d. in the pound, in addition to a water rate, and from them also the cry is reaching us: "What are we paying for? What do we get in return?"

There is no lighting system of any kind in the streets. There is no gas, neither is there electric light laid on to the houses. The county council makes no attempt to empty the bins.

The Rt. Hon. Neville Chamberlain, M.P., Minister of Health, who should institute enquiry into the matter of rating here set forth

There is no central drainage system. The inhabitants have to use torches or lamps when they go out after dark and oil-lamps in their homes.

Wise move

From Wraysbury, a country town on the banks of the Thames, about five miles from Windsor, come similar complaints. Here the rates are 6s. 2d. in the pound, besides water rate, and the inhabitants certainly consider that they get nothing in return for the money they pay.

Here, again, there is no public lighting in the streets. Here, again, the local authority does not concern itself with the emptying of bins, with the result that the ratepayer must pay a private contractor each time his bin is emptied.

Here, again, there is no system of central drainage. Each house has its cesspool, and each householder must pay £1 each time the cesspool is emptied.

The roads also are in a shocking condition, but the people of Wraysbury are not contenting themselves with "writing to JOHN BULL" about it. They are wisely setting about the formation of a Ratepayers' Association.

United, they may be able to force the council to act. At least they may be able to discover for what they are paying 6s. 2d. in the pound.

Let us look a little farther north. Birtle-cum-Bamford is in Lancashire. The Bamford half of the partnership is an urban district; the Birtle half is a rural district. In Bamford there are mills; in Birtle cottages.

The rates for Birtle-cum-Bamford are 8s. in the pound on buildings, 2s. in the pound on agricultural land, and a special rate of 1s. in the pound on assessable value.

Baffling distinction

Bamford has had a central drainage system for nearly twenty years, but for all that house-owners or householders have still to pay for the removal of ashes and other refuse.

Still, there is a possibility of the streets being illuminated at night, and the houses have their water-supply and their gas.

But what about Birtle? The people of Birtle pay the same rates, since the two places are unequally yoked together in civic matrimony, but Birtle has no gas, no street lighting, no water-supply to its houses.

The inhabitants have to remove their own refuse, repair their own drains, and at night they must carry their own light with them.

Yet they must pay the same rates as the people who have street-lamps, gas and water laid on and water-closets and drains. The people of Birtle pay the rates, but for what do they pay them?

Heywood, again, is in Lancashire. It is a manufacturing town. Householders there pay a general district rate of 6s. 8d. in the pound on buildings and of 1s. 8d. in the pound on land; a borough rate of 3s. 8d. in the pound on buildings and of 11d. in the pound on land; a poor rate of 3s. 6d. in the pound on buildings and 10½d. in the pound on land.

Yet there are areas in this district where people have to pay the full rates and get nothing in return; nothing, that is to say, that the people concerned can discover.

Unity means force

There is no space to deal with other districts which call equally loudly for attention. There is the further question of what can be done—the question most of our correspondents ask.

One man took the strong action of refusing to pay the rates levied by the Bentley Urban District Council (Yorkshire) in respect of services which were not rendered to him, as there was no highway, sewerage, or lighting accommodation in connection with his house.

The better way is for the ratepayers in each district to get together, as they are doing at Wraysbury. Unity means force.

One distinguished man once declared that if all the fleas in his bed had been united they could have thrown him out of the house. Which is a parable.

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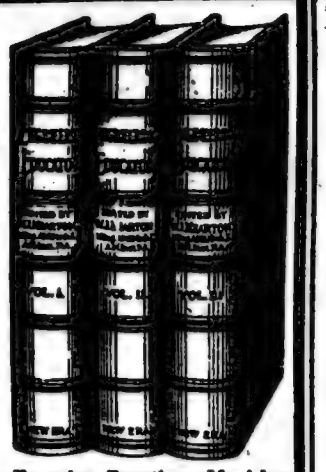

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A MILK-AND-HONEY TRAP

by **W. J. BRANDS, C.E.**

MANY fancy tales are told of the rosy chances of employment in the Colonies, and thousands believe them and go out. Far too often their hopes are rudely shattered, and they find their position is even worse than before

EVERY year, so many thousand people leave Great Britain to go to New Zealand, the much-advertised Land of Milk and Honey. Would you like to know what happens to them?

The first thing an emigrant discovers on arrival is the fact that, while his home country supplies the Dominion with cash to carry on, this same money is at a discount if he brings it into the country.

In any shop in New Zealand a "Bradbury" will be cashed at a discount of 2s. in the pound. This means 10 per cent. loss. Even the banks will deduct 2 or 3 per cent. on English gold.

Unless an emigrant arrives with an assisted passage, in which case one year's work is guaranteed him, he will find that he is in an enemy's country.

Natural fear

The native labour, and, I must acknowledge, not without a good reason, objects to having a continuous stream of destitute emigrants dumped on its shore.

One morning I read, while riding in a tramcar, that 345 assisted emigrants had just been landed. A worker turned round to me and said: "That means that so many of us will be thrown out of a job."

The new and half-frightened arrival makes a more pliant servant or worker than the New Zealander. That is why many employers make it a rule to fill up with newcomers and dismiss their old hands "who know too much."

As a result unemployment is terrible. The secretary of one labour union told me that he had 3,000 men out.

One day I stopped at a farm-house on the Nauranga Gorge Road, near Wellington. With me was a Government engineer who had just told me that, appalled by the unemployment, the Government had done some relief work and had altered some of the curves in the road.

Doctor's big drop

Some men were still employed on a similar job. The farmer's wife asked us in and started to talk about unemployment. The engineer laughed. She got very angry as she said:

"Do you know how many starving men I feed a day here on this out-of-the-way farm? Between thirty and forty. There are some of your men working up the Gorge.

"They tell me themselves they are trying to stretch the job as long as possible, as they have wives and kiddies to support, and do you know that most of these men should not be doing that work?"

She introduced me later to one of them who was wheeling mud in a barrow. He proved to be a doctor who, misled by the advertisements spread all over Great Britain, had come out with a wife and three kiddies.

Every doctor in the land made a set against him and, whilst he was earning 15s. a day, his wife was making another 5s. as a charwoman.

Possibly you will think that a pound a day for six days is not half bad. Let me tell you for a start that

Mr. W. J. Brands, C.E.

he may work only five and a quarter days, thanks to union rules.

Thus you may deduct about 15s. off this income, as his wife has to spend Saturday at home, shopping and looking after the kiddies.

Rabbit-hutch houses

His rent of two rooms, and three families using one kitchen, costs him £2 10s. a week. This does not include cooking or gas, fires or light.

Food, as produced in the islands, costs the same as in England—that is, bacon, mutton, butter, cheese. Bread costs double. Milk is a little cheaper and better.

But his clothes are twice or three times the home price. So are street-car fares and any luxury he may want. Tobacco, cigarettes, everything is more expensive.

To solve the housing problem there are whole colonies of rabbit-hutches of 15 ft. by 20 ft. springing up around the towns. These shelter one or two families. Most of the buildings are made of wood and jerry-built.

Finally, I must add, you *have* to clothe yourself as the temperature, at least around Wellington, is much colder than in England.

Our charwoman's husband has been in New Zealand for two years. He is a skilled mechanic and acetylene-welder. He has not been able to get a job for all that time and lives on what she earns. At last he hears that some ship repairs are being done at the dock.

The old woman tells us the news with tears of joy in her eyes; her "old man" has found work at last. He had gone down on the Saturday and the foreman told him to start work on the Monday. Next day she is depressed and my wife asks her what is wrong.

Dangerous work

"Please, mum," she says, "the job my hubby had is off. He went down on Monday with his old blue overalls, proud and happy. Then he gets there and them New Zealanders crowd around and say, 'We don't want any of you home-birds here. You get out of this dock or you'll be carried out.'

"But he thinks of me and gets on with the job. By and by a hammer drops from above past his face. Then a block of wood comes down. A piece of iron hits him and he gets his poor face cut open. Well, mum, then he quit. And we sold up our home to come out here."

There is a Frenchwoman going home on the next steamer. She sold all her belongings and came to Wellington to join her daughter, who is married to an Englishman. Her husband is a mechanic. Now he gets an occasional £4 a week, the equivalent of 25s. at home, when there is work unloading steamers.

His wife does sewing and charing to keep the family of five going. They live in one room, and seven families use the same kitchen. He has been seven years in New Zealand.

Her daughter will not allow her mother to speak French in public: "New Zealanders don't like foreigners." Disappointed and lonely she goes back to France.

If you go out in the hope of working hard for a year and then starting a small truck farm of your own, you are making a great mistake. All truck farming and egg and fruit business is in the hands of the Chinese.

In the capital, Wellington, there is only one store of this kind which belongs to a white woman. Everyone I have seen in the North Islands from Wellington to Auckland is in Chinese hands. If you try to break into their business the Chinks will freeze you out for the benefit of their yellow brethren.

Stay at home!

So you can see the people who left the homeland with hope in their hearts, men, women and children, tramping the roads of this "Land of Milk and Honey" in an icy breeze and pouring rain.

You can see public school boys being trained to become farm-labourers, with no prospects of getting on, nothing before them but such important posts as errand-boys and shop labourers.

Unless you have a capital of £4,000 don't touch the country—and even then you are liable to be sold a pup.

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Cold, heat, cold—how much more can you stand?

How do you know that the most amazing temperature changes in living memory have not already marked you down? How do you know that another day will pass before the first shivers begin to tell their tale—the first sneeze the rise in temperature and than . . . . Take no chances—your safeguard is Wincarnis.

Again and again Wincarnis has meant protection in treacherous weather.

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The weather has placed you in danger to-day. The defence against that danger is Wincarnis.

Can you afford to ignore the one sure safeguard

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The Tonic Wine endorsed by 17,000 Doctors' recommendations.

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For Gillette type Razors only

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HÕVIS
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That's why it's
so good for you

Best Bakers
Bake it

HOVIS LTD., LONDON & MACCLESFIELD.

In Sunshine Ward

by PHILIP INMAN

"IT'S like Paradise!" Such is the only description that comes to the minds of those who, having passed through bitter sorrow, at last perceive the gleams of sunshine. And, thank heaven, there are neighbourly hands that help the sorrowful ones towards the gleams!

A PARADISE OF PAIN

IT was an unusual letter which led to my introduction to Mrs. G. It ran: "We, the neighbours of —— Road, Westminster, are writing to ask your help for a woman with a crippled boy who lives in No. 79. Her husband has been out of work for a long time and there are two other young children besides.

"If you could take the boy into your hospital it would be a godsend to Mrs. G. Please do try to do this and we will get up a subscription to pay the cost."

As I read that letter its wonderful spirit of sympathy "got hold" of me. I knew that road in Westminster from which it had come. It was one of those streets which came in for caustic comment during the recent floods.

It is made up of habitations in which whole families herd together like cattle.

Yet though these folk exist in slumdom, this touching appeal "for a woman with a crippled boy" showed their hearts to be in the right place. How true it is that "it is the poor that help the poor."

So, in reply to that letter, I wrote to Mrs. G. asking her to come and see me, and she came. A frail little woman, her sunken eyes and hollow cheeks emphasised the pallor of her bloodless face.

Mother's tearful plea

"Tell me about your child, your invalid child," I asked. And those sunken eyes became moist. "It's Jack, my eldest boy; he's just twelve," she answered quietly. "Five years ago he fell from a swing and hurt his spine, and he's been a cripple ever since.

"His father is out of work and it means that I've got to be out all day to help to make ends meet."

She smiled, a rather sad smile, as she added, "But I'd gladly work my fingers to the bone if only Jack could get well again. Oh, do you think anything can be done for him?"

But when the next day, after a medical examination, I heard the nature of the boy's injury, I knew, alas! what Mrs. G. had known in her heart for five long years, that medical science had done everything it could for him—and that everything was nothing.

After seven years

As gently as I could, I told her the tragic tidings. "You had better let me arrange for him to be received in a home for such patients in the country," I said. "He will be well looked after and have fresh air."

A shadow came into the eyes of Mrs. G. "He's never left me before and it will be like tearing a piece out of my heart to let him go," she murmured softly.

During those interviews Mrs. G. said not one word about her husband, and it was a neighbour who spoke to me about him. "He used to be a terror," she said, "but he seems to have changed lately and goes about with his head down as though he's ashamed of himself."

I remembered that on the day little Jack was taken away. The ambulance had pulled up at the doorway and the crippled boy was carried into it. His mother smiled bravely as she bade him good-bye, but when he had gone she broke down completely.

Her husband looked at her for a moment and then he put his hand on her shoulder and said very tenderly, "Don't cry, Annie, don't cry, we'll soon have him back again."

He went out and when the door was closed Mrs. G. smiled through her tears. "That's the first kind word he's spoken for seven years."

To-day Mrs. G. called again to see me. She is a different woman from when I first saw her. Her cheeks have filled out and her eyes have lost all their sadness.

Philip Inman

With a great pride she showed me a letter. It said that her name was the next on the list for a council house, and that possession of one might be expected within three months. "Then I shall be able to have my boy home again," said Mrs. G. thankfully.

"And your husband?" I enquired. She smiled, a happy smile. "He's working," she replied. "He found employment just after Jack went away. He's so different now, just like his old self."

"Then you are a happy woman," I remarked. Her face became radiant. "Happy," she repeated, "after what we've gone through, it's like Paradise."

The Sentence of the Court

OUR PROUD PRISONER

A Coroner's Cobwebs

IN answer to a charge of misdirected eloquence, Mr. J. T. Proud delivered himself of a lengthy harangue from which, after a prolonged search, the Court was able to extract a plea of "Not guilty."

"Whenever a charge of this nature is brought," said Mr. Watchdog, K.C., "it is fairly safe to bet that the culprit is either a Jay P. or a coroner, both of which types suffer from the delusion that their views on anything and everything are of immense public importance.

"The present offender is the Durham Coroner, who, in opening an inquest, obliged with his own theories relating to the alleged crime wave which he says is sweeping the country.

"'In our own time,' he remarked, 'publicity was given to the immorality of people qualified for the Divorce Court, but then enlightened public opinion came along and said, "Now this is wrong. It probably breeds immorality and must be stopped."'

"He then expressed the pious hope that public opinion would compel our legislators to enforce a similar censorship of crime reports, as he sadly fears that publicity itself is 'a breeder of crime.' It was probably an eminent troglodyte who first suggested such a cure for all the evils of the world.

"But if our present-day troglodytes were logical—which they never are—they would be no less convinced that the proper way to deal with a noxious drain is to treat it with well-bred indifference.

"Unhappily, a bad smell remains a bad smell whether it is mentioned in the Press or enveloped in dignified silence, and the keeping dark of dark deeds can benefit nobody but their perpetrators."

* * *

Mr. Strawsplitter said that his client, in deploring "an insatiable craze for the details of crime," had probably gone farther than he had intended. It would, of course, be extravagant to suggest that respectable citizens on reading of a murder are forthwith fired with an ambition to become murderers. All the same, there was no reason why comfortable people should have their finer feelings harrowed by accounts of crimes which cast a gloom over the eggsanbacon.

* * *

"At an early stage of his discourse," said Mr. Justice Bill, "the prisoner showed how hopelessly at sea he was by pointing to the Secret Divorce Act to prove the beauties of his hush-hush policy.

"The immediate result of this enforced hush in the Press was a frenzied rush to the Divorce Court, where marriages are now being painlessly and privately dissolved at a speed which startles even the 'fast' set.

"What is even stranger is that the prisoner himself, in opening the inquest that inspired his muddled oration, announced: 'We are dependent on the public at this critical time for any assistance of value. Apart from the evidence which may be obtained from the public, nothing can be traced.'

"If he were wise as well as being Proud, this sadly confused coroner would realise that under his system of censorship such an appeal would be valueless, as the public would not even know of the crime.

"He must also know that Press publicity has resulted in the clearing up of various crimes which otherwise would have remained mysteries. A modern murderer has good grounds for regarding a widely circulated newspaper as a potential 'noosepaper.'

"As we have not a Jaw Precautions Act for dealing with well-meaning but woolly word-spinners like the prisoner, I must try his own policy, by sentencing him to six months' rigorous tongue-censorship, so that his casual thoughts will not escape from his mind in the untidy garb in which they have lately been inflicted upon a bored world."

THE
BOATRACE RESULT
need not worry you if you banish the "blues" with this week's "Passing Show." Every Friday — Twopence.

"You're in good time Mrs. Rawlins"

"Well Mum, when I know there's work to be done I like to get at it."

Mrs. Rawlins knows that well begun's half done! And the way to get well begun is to have at your hand Reckitt's Blue and Robin Starch. Reckitt's Blue so that your white things shall keep white; Robin Starch because it's an easy helpful starch; because in Robin there's the touch of the expert; because it gives smooth going and a fine finish at the end. In these two you have all the secrets of success. Use them both and see how thing after thing comes up to your mind, silvery, lustrous, glossy and crisp — your white things snowy white.

ROBIN *Starch*

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If you knew how I make my sauce

If you knew what a lot of good things there are in the recipe—you wouldn't wonder that my Chef Sauce is so good.
Once your family has tried it, they will want it always. Buy a bottle to-day and see how much more delicious it makes cold meat—or hot; chops, steaks, hash or fish.

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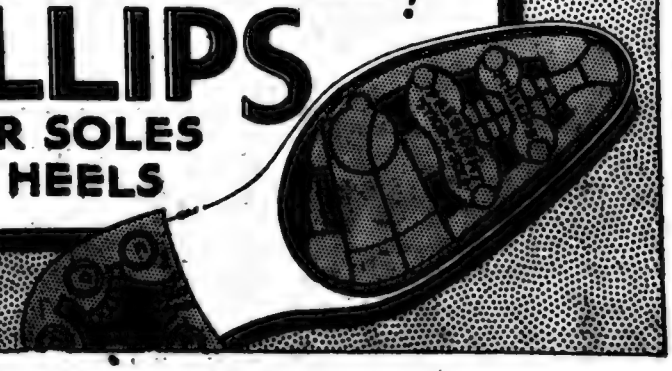

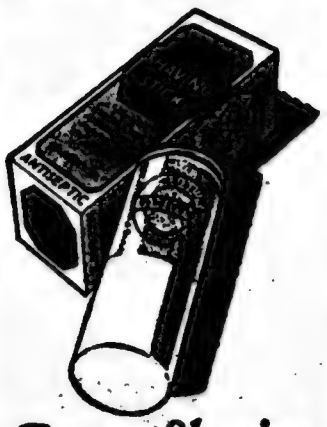

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Words Winged to Women

THE BEST JOB ON EARTH

by MABEL HORNER

"BABYLAND" has too long been regarded as a place of dark mystery, only to be whispered and sniggered of in secret. It has its own attractive lore of stork and fairy legend, but at the right moment every boy and girl should be told the truth, beautifully and with scientific clarity

NOTHING is more amazing than the kind of education we deal out to our unfortunate youngsters. Instead of steadily training them to fit in with the social life of the community and become self-supporting, public-spirited citizens, we crowd them up in bulk and cram them with often utterly useless knowledge.

When a girl of thirteen, whose home is poor, who must perforce go out into the world to earn a living, brings home as a problem to be worked out that "The angle of elevation of the top of a tower is 7 degrees. On walking ten miles towards the tower the angle is 36 degrees. Find the distance from the foot of the tower (use tables)," it is time to ask whether we are giving the young people of the country the kind of information best calculated to fit them for the part they are expected to play.

In the matter of preparing them for parenthood, I am perfectly certain that we are not.

Travesties of parents

Many correspondents have sent me indignant letters about a case of neglected children that came before the Ely Police Court. I am not surprised, for the facts are horrible and poverty had no hand in the shocking affair.

The father, Walter Furness, was an engine-driver in regular employment, and his wife, Annie, earned in addition nearly £1 a week on a beet farm. Yet their children were filthy, vermin-infested, covered in sores, ragged and starved.

My correspondents are highly indignant that these deplorable travesties of parents were not sent to prison, pointing out that magistrates have been known to punish severely those convicted of cruelty to animals, while these people are "let off."

Well, hardly that. The six Furness children were sent to a Poor Law institution for a few weeks to be cleansed, cared for and fed, while the parents are ordered to clean their home and make it fit for their children's return. Moreover, for two years they are put under police supervision and a weekly report, during all that time, must be made to the Bench.

Lady Howard de Walden

I am greatly in favour of this sort of sentence, which marks out an improved line of conduct and undertakes to enforce, with penalties, that it be taken.

But I do not wonder that the magistrate characterised the Furnesses as "having committed one of the foulest crimes" and that he confessed he "hardly knew what to say nor how to deal with such parents."

I wish he had added strong disapproval of the national habit that is capable of teaching a girl the "angle of elevation of the top of a tower" and similar abstract profundities, but leaves out of account all serious teaching and preparation for parenthood.

Some schools now give a good deal of attention to housewifery. I have before me two pictures which all thoughtful women must approve.

One shows a group of girls practising clothes-folding and mangling at Raynham School, Edmonton, where special classes are held to train little girls into housewives.

The other shows boys of the Florence Melly Open-air School at Liverpool, all wearing aprons and eagerly learning how to cook.

But I look in vain for a movement in any school teaching boys and girls the meaning and responsibility of parenthood.

Meanwhile Lady Howard de Walden, a member of the National Council of Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital, that wonderful institution where babies are born every day, has set a better example.

When her own daughter reached the age of fifteen, Lady Howard de Walden took the girl to the hospital and showed her the young mothers and their babies.

Failures through ignorance

She says: "My daughter was delighted with the experience. She readily appreciated the fact that the mothers were in the hospital in order that they might have their babies in greater comfort than would have been possible in their own homes.

"I think the visit was good for her as well as interesting. She enjoyed seeing the babies. She accepted the situation quite naturally, as all girls should *who are normally brought up*, that the mother and baby are one until the baby should be strong enough to have an independent life of its own. I naturally feel that what is good for my girl should be good for others."

I feel that, too. A boy needs also the teaching that shall make him look upon parenthood as a responsibility. But the girl looks forward to the most wonderful job. It is she alone who in the right ordering of her own life can bring the tiny limbs to perfection and finally usher the new life into the world.

Because she is so often left to find out all about it from actual and sad experience, is it any wonder that she sometimes makes a failure of motherhood?

If the proper teaching was given, in the best way, she would regard herself as the architect of humanity's future, and that future would then be assured.

CRISES AND COMPENSATION

The Thing that Counts

AT first sight it seems tragic when beautiful things are made that they should be doomed to perish. The mightiest monuments of men's toil and genius finally reach decay. Of "the glory that was Greece and the grandeur that was Rome" only fragments, sufficient to show what once was, now remain.

On the other hand, it is queer indeed that small things, such as proud men deem beneath notice, may have about them some imperishable quality.

One day, centuries ago, a throng of notable and wealthy persons crowded about a city temple, ostentatiously casting into the treasury rich gifts. With them came a poor widow, whose only offering was two mites, the smallest coin known.

And because it represented, not what she could spare, but all that she had, that sacrifice has been remembered whenever deeds of helpfulness are spoken of.

Misery on the doorstep

Week by week, with patient persistence, JOHN BULL claims to deal with imperishable things. Schemes for human betterment, condemnation of evil, praise of the good, and the stupendous task of promoting world peace, all find a place in JOHN BULL'S pages.

But this does not mean that JOHN BULL cannot see the little crying needs close at home, the human misery sitting waiting on the doorstep.

It was exactly with these everyday troubles in mind that JOHN BULL'S Free Insurance Scheme was prepared. It is unique because it helps in just those wretched little unexpected crises that occur in every household.

It was certainly unexpected when Mr. C. Lewis, of 21, Waun Goch, Nantymoel, Bridgend, sitting with his wife entertaining friends, was suddenly informed that his house was afire!

Mr. Lewis had changed in the bathroom, and put his working clothes on a line above the hot-water pipes, but how this caused fire is a mystery. However, there it was, and some pounds' worth of damage was done before the flames were subdued. But Mr. Lewis, being a registered reader, was able to make his claim to JOHN BULL.

Aisle — Altar — Hymn

Many a "Bullets" cheque has rung the wedding-bells since this effort headed the prize-list in 1913. That First Prize on page 39 may speed the happy day for you!

Register at once!

A more painful story is told of what befell Mr. William Mohan, of 57, Tuphall Road, Hamilton. Mohan served in the war, and has never been able to work since. He has been in and out of hospital, and the last time in Bellahouston Hospital his life was despaired of.

Further treatment being considered useless, he was taken home in an ambulance wagon, and left there in bed, to await a visit from the local doctor.

While his wife was tending him clothes warming by the fire suddenly blazed. Mohan jumped out of bed with fright, and collapsed, while Mrs. Mohan in extinguishing the flame got her hands burnt.

When the excitement was over both were glad to remember that they were registered readers and claimed JOHN BULL'S help. Such help is among the imperishable things; but JOHN BULL is only able to give it when readers are *registered*.

If you are not already registered, get pen and ink and DO IT NOW!

The Family Health.

The choice of good wholesome food, properly cooked, does more than anything to maintain the family in robust health. Doctors advise more suet puddings. With "ATORA," the good wholesome Beef Suet, sold ready shredded to save your time, you can make puddings, dumplings, etc., quickly and at small cost.

For to-day try this simple recipe for dumplings. Prepared in 5 minutes, cooked in 15 minutes.

The best way to make Dumplings.

2-oz. "ATORA" Shredded Suet. 4-oz. Flour.
½-teaspoonful Baking Powder. Pinch of Salt.

Make the dough with sufficient moisture, divide into small balls, and roll well in flour. Put the dumplings into the soup, stew, etc., when it is at simmering point, about 15 minutes before it has finished cooking. But take care it does not go off the boil when the dumplings are put in.

Hugon's

'ATORA'

The Good BEEF SUET

contains no preservative.

At all Grocers, in 2d. packets and 1-lb., ½-lb. and ¼-lb. cartons.

Write a post card to-day for our free Recipe Booklet.

HUGON & CO., LTD., ——— MANCHESTER.

The originators of Refined Beef Suet.

3218

"He's so bristly"

Men who go "out" with their beards a bit "blue and bristly" are not popular. Yet most men can do without a second shave if they have a really close shave in the morning.

See how quickly Erasmic lathers, how closely and evenly it softens the beard, how it stays on the face without drying. And tender skins are soothed and refreshed by the tonic properties of Erasmic Shaving Stick.

ERASMIC
SHAVING STICK

in the Blue Tin 1/-

(In nickel container—1/3)

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Full of Life and Energy

What a difference "Ovaltine" makes in a very few weeks! Weak and ailing children become strong and sturdy—full of life and energy and with cheeks glowing with glorious health! That is the experience in many thousands of homes.

The secret of good health is simply adequate nourishment. "Ovaltine" supplies in super-abundant measure the nourishment which builds up healthy bodies, sound nerves and alert minds. After illness "Ovaltine" rapidly restores health, strength and normal weight.

Mrs. Hughes, of Sale, Cheshire, writes:
"My little girl, Dorothy, has derived wonderful benefits from the daily use of 'Ovaltine' during the past six weeks. For the first fortnight of the time she was in bed with measles and bronchitis. She made a quick recovery, rapidly regained health, and looks so much better than before her illness that people are remarking on the change in her, as previously she was always ailing."

"Ovaltine" is prepared from Nature's tonic foods—malt, milk, and eggs—and supplies, in a concentrated form, all the food elements essential for healthy growth. Make delicious "Ovaltine" your children's daily beverage.

'OVALTINE'

TONIC FOOD BEVERAGE

Builds-up Brain, Nerve and Body

Prices in Gt. Britain and Northern Ireland, 1/3, 2/- and 3/9 per tin.

P.472

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AND THE
GREAT PYRAMID
BY
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Sold by all Chemists and Stores, Price 1/3 and 2/6 per bottle.

Spots!

Gone for Good

Why let spots ruin your complexion and be a continual source of embarrassment when you can get rid of them so easily. Wex is so pleasant to take and so certain in action that you should start taking it to-morrow. Read what Mrs. A. T. says:

I am so pleased to let you know I received your sample. I continually had pimples on my face but after taking Wex they have slowly disappeared and I also feel better in my health. Feb. 25, 1928

Why Wex Removes Spots.

Spots are caused by thickening of the bile, which prevents the liver from carrying away the waste products of the body. Wex goes to the root of the matter, assisting Nature by thinning the bile. The impurities which are clogging the system are removed, spots disappear, the skin becomes clear, indigestion, dull eyes, coated tongue, and other kindred ailments disappear, and the whole system is toned. Wex is a delightful sparkling morning drink. You take one teaspoonful in half-a-glass of water on rising. Try Wex at our expense and prove this to your profit.

Free

trial offer

In order that you may test Wex for yourself, we will send free and post paid a generous sample of Wex on receipt of a postcard. Just say: "Please send me free sample of Wex" on the postcard—don't forget your own name and address, and send the postcard to Wex, 78, Deansgate Arcade, Manchester.

FOR A COLD

-do this

Rub Musterole on the throat and chest, and, at once, stuffiness goes, soreness is relieved. This clean, white ointment draws out congestion and prevents complications. At all chemists.

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YOU can have a 1928 Gold Medal QUADRANT Cycle ON 14 DAYS' APPROVAL, PACKED FREE and CARRIAGE PAID. Deposit gets immediate delivery. Thousands of Testimonials. Write for our Free Lists and see the enormous saving in cash and easy payment terms.

2/- WEEKLY

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Human Documents

The Venom of Slander

Dangerous Drift—Sniffing Evil—Duty-Dodging Husband

PROBLEMS that may be yours are dealt with by "Humanist." The names and addresses of all correspondents are suppressed so that the writers may not be identified. Letters that are too intimate or are not sufficiently general to be helpful to others are answered by post. All correspondents must send stamped, addressed envelopes. Ten shillings is being sent to each of the writers of the first four letters printed.

"TWENTY years ago, I found myself homeless in the street with my two babies, deserted by my husband. In my distress, a man a good deal older than myself gave me and my little ones shelter.

"He was a widower, and in return for his kindness I looked after his home and motherless children, until arrangements were made for them to go to relatives.

"Being unable to trace my husband so as to obtain my freedom, I eventually threw in my lot with this man who had been so good to me in my hour of need, and I bore him a family which we have brought up in a way no parents need be ashamed of.

"Of my two children by my first husband, one died and the other went abroad.

"During the war their father atoned for his desertion with his life, but it was not until some years afterwards that I learned that he had been killed and that I was at last free to marry the man with whom I had lived for so long without any of the neighbours knowing that we were not legally man and wife.

"WHEN we married, I took a neighbour into my confidence, and told her the exact situation. She promised that she would not betray my secret, but she has done so with terrible results.

"It is bad enough to find myself shunned as if I were a plague by neighbours I have helped many a time when they were in need. I could bear that, but now I have lost my son through this woman's spiteful tongue.

"He was engaged to a very nice girl, and this neighbour stopped her in the street and told her she was surprised at her getting engaged to my boy, as we were not married when he was born.

"I next had a visit from the girl's mother, who stood on the doorstep and upbraided me dreadfully.

"The result of all this unpleasantness is that my son has left home without so much as saying good-bye. He has left his work without notice and no one knows where he has gone.

"I am broken-hearted. I don't know where to look for him and all the happiness has gone from our home simply because of this neighbour's slander."

"HUMANIST" says: *"Curse the tongue whence slanderous rumour, like the adder's drop, distils her venom, withering friendship's faith, turning love's favour." I can understand your boy in momentary distraction running away from such unpleasant neighbours, but I trust this may meet his eye and that he will return to comfort you and defend you against the despicable taunts of the foul mud-slingers.*

* * *

"WHEN I was a young girl, only seventeen, I fell into the hands of an unscrupulous employer and I gave birth to a little boy, who was reared by a married sister and kept in ignorance regarding his parentage.

A Mother's Dilemma

"I am now happily married myself and I have a daughter in her 'teens. My married sister frequently visits me with her adopted son and he and my daughter on these occasions spend a good deal of time together.

"They appear to be very fond of each other and to have a great deal in common, but now that my daughter is growing into womanhood, I am filled with apprehension regarding their friendship.

"Is it the blood relationship that attracts them to each other and gives them so much in common, or is there a deeper emotion of which my daughter, at least, is not yet conscious?

"Ought I to tell my daughter of my unfortunate experience? I would rather bury her than that she should go through the valley of humiliation and despair that I trod when little more than a child.

"It is very hard to lift the veil and show her my sin, for she idealises me and thinks her mother is almost perfect. I fear disillusionment would make her bitter and cynical.

"Perhaps my fears are groundless, but I cannot help noticing that my son, though he has long been old enough for courtship, has shown no inclination towards the company of any other girl."

"HUMANIST" says: *If your daughter is unconscious of any tender emotion it may be wise not to disturb her mind at present; later on she may be enlightened with less fear of alienating her affection from you. I think your son, being older, should be told of the circumstances of his birth, so that he may be saved from drifting into a painful love affair.*

* * *

"SO well was I taught in my youth that a sneak was the most despicable of human characters that even now in later life it remains one of my firmest convictions.

Sniff and Sneak

"This puts me in an awkward predicament. All my instincts of morality prompt me to a course of action that the principle that I learned in my youth forbids. Will you please advise me whether in the following circumstances I should stick to this principle or sneak?

"I have a friend, a married man much younger than myself, who is going about clandestinely with a girl who works in the same block of offices.

"I pointed out to him that he was on the wrong road, but he replied, rather curtly, that he knew what he was doing. I then approached the girl, but she told me, even more shortly, to mind my own business.

"In the same neighbourhood a home was broken up quite recently which might have been saved by a timely word of warning, and I would not like the same thing to happen in my friend's case if I could prevent it by speaking.

"I have since told them both that if they continue their association I shall be compelled to inform the wife. To do so would appear rather mean, but my conscience is uneasy. Am I justified in sneaking?"

"HUMANIST" says: *No. One cannot go through life as a common informer disclosing to husbands or wives all one may regard, perhaps mistakenly, as evidence of marital infidelity. You have made your remonstrance. That should satisfy your conscience. Some people have such long noses that they can sniff evil where none exists.*

MAKE a dead-set to help those who have come to a deadlock, by subscribing to "The Greatest of These—" Fund. (See p. 38.)

GREAT PEN OFFER. (See page 2.)

"I AM a young wife, only twenty-two years of age, and an expectant mother. Only six months ago I married, hoping for happiness, but a very short experience of married life opened my eyes to the extent to which I had been mistaken in my husband's character. His cruelty and bad conduct were so unbearable that two months ago I was forced to leave him and return to my parents.

Swift Shipwreck

"There was no home to be broken up, for he had not provided me with one. We were living in furnished rooms and when I left him he just gave them up and went back to live with his people.

"Since then he has ignored me entirely and has never paid a penny piece towards my maintenance.

"I brought him to court and an order was made for 15s. weekly, but he has taken no notice of it and declares he will not pay.

"Can you tell me whether when the baby is born I can compel his people to take it so as to leave me free to work for myself?"

"HUMANIST" says: *You should ask the court to enforce the order and make your husband pay the expenses of your confinement. But why deprive your unborn babe of a mother's love? Surely it needs it all the more with such a father. If it is necessary for you to go out to work you should be able to make arrangements for your baby to be looked after while you are away from home.*

* * *

First to Forgive

"My sister, who lives close by, has treated me like a stranger lately, and neighbours tell me she scandalises me to them. I would like to forgive her, for we used to be such friends, but she won't come near me."

"Humanist" says: *Then go to her. How do you know your neighbours do not tell her the same thing about you? There is usually wrong on both sides of a quarrel, and the way to set matters right is to try to be the first to forgive.*

Selfish Anxiety

"Because we would not put her up after a row with her husband, my wife's sister went away saying she would commit suicide. We don't want to worry her husband, but we don't know where she has gone, or whether, if anything happens to her, we can draw the insurance money."

"Humanist" says: *A woman who seriously threatens suicide must be considered to be mentally deranged and her husband should be informed at once. It will be time enough to think about insurance money when it is no longer of any use being anxious for her safety.*

Penalised Pensioners

"After working over fifty years in the same place, my husband has been discharged because he now has an old-age pension. I am a cripple, unable to work, and we have no children. How are we to live on 10s. a week?"

"Humanist" says: *Yours is one of thousands of similar sad cases. If your husband cannot obtain other employment you must ask the guardians for assistance. It is no disgrace for you to do so. The shame is on those who force you into that position.*

COMPANY MEETING.

EDWARD LLOYD, LIMITED.

SATISFACTORY YEAR.

The 38th ordinary general meeting of Edward Lloyd, Limited, was held on February 14 at the head office of the company, 4-7, Salisbury Court, Fleet Street, E.C.

Sir William E. Berry, Bart (chairman of the company) presided.

The secretary (Mr. T. Gerald Denson) read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors.

The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said:—

Before dealing with the ordinary business of the meeting, I think it only right that I should refer to the death of Mr. Frank Lloyd, under whose control the business of this firm was brought to its present extent. Mr. Lloyd was a remarkable man in many ways. His ability as an organiser is reflected in the growth of Edward Lloyd, Ltd., from a small concern in London to the largest papermaking mills in the whole of the Empire. As an employer and a citizen Mr. Lloyd's career was one of which all connected with him have every right to be proud, and his death was a loss, not only to the great business with which he was closely associated, but to the nation at large.

Shortly after Mr. Lloyd's death the whole of the ordinary shares in Edward Lloyd, Ltd., were acquired by a new company, called the Edward Lloyd Investment Co., Ltd., and that company is represented on this board by myself, my brother, Sir Gomer Berry, and Sir Edward Iliffe. In addition, Mr. Stanley Cousins, whose name has been well and honourably known in the paper world for many years, has joined the board.

I should like to take this opportunity of making it clear that while there have been changes in the proprietary, there will be no change in the policy of the business. We have endeavoured to adhere as closely as possible to the methods and ideas of the late Mr. Lloyd and purchasers of our paper can rely upon that same uniformity and fairness of treatment which have become world famous in connection with Edward Lloyd, Ltd.

In that connection you will note with pleasure that Mr. Percy Denson, who has been associated with the business all his life, continues with us as joint managing director, and, amongst his other duties, personally controls our mills at Sittingbourne and Kemsley. Mr. E. H. Raynham, who has also been with the business for nearly the whole of his commercial career, remains with us in his same capacity as joint managing director and in sole charge of the sales department. I regret to say that Mr. Raynham is not with us to-day on account of ill-health, but we hope to see him back shortly fully recovered from his recent indisposition. Mr. Miller, who has been with the company for many years, continues as a director, and there have been no changes in the staff or control generally.

The Accounts.

Turning now to the accounts for last year, you will notice that the profit for the year, after deducting income-tax, stands at £352,995 7s. 8d. Your directors recommend that £25,000 be placed to reserve, and that a dividend of 15 per cent., free of income-tax, be declared for the year. This will increase the amount carried forward to £51,478 16s. 10d.

You will notice that the capital account is increased by the addition of the 525,000 £1 preference shares, which were issued to the public in February, 1927, and by 400,000 £1 ordinary shares, issued as bonus shares to the existing ordinary shareholders in January of the same year, and created by capitalising sundry reserves to that amount. The proceeds of the preference issue went towards reducing the bank overdraft during the year from £394,431 3s. to £105,582 15s. 1d., the figure at which it stood on December 31 last, and to meeting capital expenditure.

Sundry creditors, credit balances and bills payable show a decrease of £408,950 13s. 1d., accounted for chiefly by the capitalisation of reserves already referred to, and stocks and book debts an increase of £102,062 4s. 8d., due to the extension of our business. There is a reduction of £41,526 in our gilt-edged investments through an equivalent amount of Government bonds having been redeemed, and cash in hand is down by £9,328 0s. 5d.

Kemsley Mill Finest in the World.

We have expended a total of £408,595 17s. 4d. on further new extensions at Kemsley, and we claim to have in that mill to-day the finest newsprint mill in the world. The Kemsley power station has now been completed, and your directors have every confidence that this plant will operate at a very high efficiency. In addition to this we have also started our No. 3 paper machine, and this machine is already in the front line of three-roll machines, both in regard to speed and production.

Sittingbourne Mills.

While carrying out the extension work at Kemsley, we have also devoted considerable attention to our plant at Sittingbourne. There we have installed new machinery and generally brought these mills into line with plants of more recent construction.

With regard to our prospects for the coming year, we are still faced with an over-production of newsprint, and this has resulted in selling prices remaining at a very low level. It is difficult to forecast how long this period of low prices will last, but there is every indication that the increased consumption both in this country and in America is becoming rapidly felt. With our long-standing policy of maintaining our plant at a high standard, your directors look forward to the coming year with full confidence.

Thanks to Management and Employees.

In conclusion, I would like to thank our management, our staff, and all our employees in Sittingbourne, London and Norway, for the manner in which they have carried out their duties in the past year. In every department there has been that good feeling and that co-operation between management and men which is so essential to our industries of to-day. The relations between the employees and the firm of Edward Lloyd, Ltd., have always been of a satisfactory and intimate character, and it is our hope that that relationship shall always continue.

Mr. Percy G. Denson seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted, and a dividend of 15 per cent. (free of income-tax) was declared on the ordinary shares for the year 1927.

The retiring directors were re-elected, and Mr. T. Gerald Denson was elected a director of the company.

Messrs. Turquand, Youngs and Co. were reappointed auditors.

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Hundreds of people in all ranks of life have received lasting benefit and have sent me letters praising this wonderful little plant.

Drink a cupful of HERVEA each morning, and you will feel a different being. The reason is that it expels the uric acid poisons and PREVENTS NEW ACCUMULATIONS of further acid deposits in the system.

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If you feel that you are getting benefit I will supply a further quantity at a small charge. I do not vend patent medicines, but can say, from my own personal experience, that the product now offered is most effective for Rheumatism and allied complaints, and what it did for me in a few weeks it should do for you, if you will give it a fair trial.

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N.B.—As the selling of this product is distinct from my regular business, please mark your envelope "HERVEA" in the left-hand corner, and possible delay will be avoided.

P.S. Apart from RHEUMATISM, I have been told in letters from numerous people that they have found Hervea splendid for INDIGESTION, "NERVES," SLEEPLESSNESS, CONSTIPATION, SLUGGISH LIVER and STOMACH TROUBLES. (If you suffer from any of the above Disorders, send for a sample.)

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MODEL F. This is a Super-Machine, fitted with 4in. stone. Approx. weight 4 lbs. Enamelled body, all bright parts polished. Sent Cash on Delivery for 2/9. Packing 1/-. 2 for 5/6. Packing 1/6.

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Our Letter Parliament

Methods of Methuselah

Our Lazy M.P.s—Spreading Disease—Another Subsidy!

MR. W. A. LEE'S article, "Does Anybody Love Us?" (JOHN BULL, March 10), viewing the position existing to-day in the mining industry, is not an impressive one. He says really nothing at all of the past strikes, which, had the coal-owners handled far differently at the time, would never have taken place. Government control, amalgamation of collieries and such cannot possibly be anything but abortive in bringing a return of prosperity. Friendly co-operation between masters and men is the only way to regain for the industry what it has lost.—*H. C., Warminster.*

Out-of-date Theories

I am more than ever convinced that the coal-mining industry of this country will never get back to its old-time prosperity if it is left to the initiative of the mine-owners. They are still imbued with the same out-of-date theories and hide-bound ideas, which they are too stubborn to surrender. It is becoming abundantly clear that the ultimate solution lies in the direction of the Samuel Report.—*T. R., London.*

Britain Behind

The trouble in the mines is precisely the same as in other industries. The methods of obtaining coal are obsolete. The two most prosperous nations in the world, France and America, are both equipped with brand-new machinery. Reduce the price of British goods and you will reduce unemployment by increasing the demand, and this can only be done by modernising our methods and machines.—*K., Birmingham.*

Cheaper Power

Is it not a fact that during the war Britain supplied Northern Italy with coal at £4 18s. per ton? Bound to have coal it sought other cheaper means of power, and therefore harnessed its water. The result to-day is that instead of taking 10,000,000 tons of coal annually, it takes none. This also affects ships' bunker trade, which Mr. Lee complains is also down.—*C. G., Ilkeston.*

Proved Unfit

Despite all the demands conceded to the mine-owners since 1926, Mr. Lee informs us that the coal industry is working at an average loss of 1s. per ton produced. The present owners have been proved unfit to manage the industry, the miners' representatives have no suggestions to make, therefore the only course open for the nation is to take over this "bankrupt" industry and to make it very definite that there is no compensation for goodwill.—*E. R., Eastleigh.*

The Patient Ass

The Secretary of the Mining Association states that house coal represents only one-eighth of the normal output. This will make many housewives think that the profits from this particular eighth are intended to make up for the profits the other seven-eighths cannot make. Forty-five shillings a ton within a few miles of a coalfield cannot be explained either by wages or freights.—*M. H., Huddersfield.*

Remembered!

Mr. Lee says, "The skill of our miners will compare with any in the world." Quite true, but does he forget that, during the last strike, his publicity department, by publishing in the Press unfair comparisons in output between the British, American and Continental miner, did its utmost to discredit the British miner? Such tactics, despicable and un-British, can readily explain, "Why Nobody Loves Us" (the mine-owners).—*N. M., London.*

Brief-to-the-point letters not exceeding 100 words are invited. 5s. is paid for each letter published. Name and address essential, not necessarily for publication. Envelopes must be marked "Letter Parliament."

Unfair Figure

Mr. Lee did not tell your readers what is the average wage of the Durham, Lancashire, Staffordshire and Welsh miners. In giving the average wage of the Yorkshire miner at 13s. per day, he was not acting fairly. The miners in the counties I have mentioned do not average 13s. per day by at least 3s. or 4s.—*D. M., Notts.*

Up or Down?

How can we hope for a revival in the coal industry in face of such disgraceful competition as the Polish miner at 3s. 9d. per day and Indians receiving 7s. 2d. per week. No wonder coal can be imported cheaper than that produced at home. Let the foreigner receive a decent wage. Do not drag us down to his miserable existence.—*A. C., Derby.*

Miners' Pensions

Mr. Lee did not tell us that the German miner's average is 8s. 9d. a day; eight hours bank to bank; almost an hour a day less than the British miner. When he is fifty and has worked twenty-five years in or about the pit he receives a pension of £4 4s. a month; at sixty years £5 10s. a month. He also gets 7s. 6d. a month for children until they reach the age of fifteen years, and pithead baths are a reality. This pension scheme in Great Britain would automatically solve the unemployment crisis in the mining industry.—*J. H., Burnley.*

What War Does

When a Cabinet Minister is made to acknowledge that unemployment is inevitable after a war, the people ought to be ready to say, with the emphasis of conviction, "We must make war an international crime." It is sad to read that the last war destroyed £50,000,000,000 worth of capital, dislocated the trade of the world, herded so vast a number of the cream of the lands into the slaughter, and made life a burden to innumerable families. It is time for civilised nations to brand war-mongers as international criminals. —*E. T., Carmarthen.*

Printers' Pie

[*Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published. Mark envelopes "Pie."*]

"NEWS OF THE WORLD":—"Cough.—Before retiring have the chest well rubbed, BACK AND FRONT."

"GOOLE TIMES":—"Salt rubbed on with a flannel will remove stains FROM PREPARATIONS SOLD BY YOUR IRONMONGER."

"DAILY RECORD": — "Meanwhile wireless communication in Morse was being kept up between THE CHEMISTS at 3s. and 7s. PER BOTTLE OR POST FREE FROM ——"

"HUDDERSFIELD WEEKLY EXAMINER": "The Fire Brigade were called out for the second time yesterday to a motor-car WHICH CAUGHT FIRE THIS AFTERNOON."

"DAILY HERALD":—"Blackpool did extremely well TO EAT CLAPTON ORIENT on their own ground."

"LIVERPOOL ECHO":—"Take some mashed potatoes and, WITH A LITTLE FLOWER, form into scones."

"SOUTH WALES ECHO":—"LARGE CROWS were attracted to Hanover Square to see the marriage of ——."

Counted Out

On two recent occasions in the very early evening the "House" has been counted out. Over six-hundred members and less than forty in attendance! The demise of such a Government must come shortly, and what more appropriate epitaph for the "dear" departed than "Counted out"?—*V. W., Berks.*

A Glorious Feeling

After wading through the American newspapers, and seeing nothing but adverse reports of British trade, it leaves one a bit depressed. But then the mail comes in, bringing the papers from home, and one finds conditions are not so bad after all. Oh! it's a grand and glorious feeling. —*F. J. Gary, U.S.A.*

Service Waste

The Army, Navy and Air Force each has its own medical headquarters, the Naval one comprising surgeon rear-admirals, captains, etc. All these officers do medical work only, and the upkeep of three separate departments is enormously expensive. Why not, bring the three departments under one administration, make pay standardised and the service interchangeable?—*A. L. M., Deptford.*

Lives Are Cheap!

I recently passed along a street lined with dust-bins awaiting the dust-cart. This disease-spreading anachronism was already in the road, rubbish was being flung into it and dust arose in clouds. Less than five yards away was a milkcart. The milkman stood complacently ladling milk out of an uncovered can.—*C. P., Manchester.*

Removing Suspicion

The proceedings of several recent criminal cases emphasises the need for a police defender attached to every important public centre, whose duty it will be to advise any person charged with an indictable offence before a statement can be taken by the police, and to be present when it is. This would remove the suspicion that damaging statements are obtained by the police on the strength of a promise to help.—*Lex, Wood Green.*

Subsidised Armaments

According to the Comptroller and Auditor-General, an agreement has been made whereby firms supplying armour-plate to the Admiralty are to be subsidised. For the two years recently fixed payments will be approximately £90,000 each year. This if not controlled will be the beginning of subsidies for all war material.—*A. S., Southsea.*

Coloured Seamen

Concerning the question of employing coloured labour on British ships, the following figures may be interesting. Wages for forty-five Britishers per month amount to the same (within £5) as required to pay 100 coloured seamen. In cases where Indian labour is employed the cost of victualling each man is roughly halved. It is, therefore, not difficult to see the shipowner's point of view. —*H. G. S., Middlesex.*

Too True to Screen

If we are to have war films, let's have the whole truth. Let's have "close-ups" of the bloody, disembowelled kiddies; "close-ups" of their mothers frantic with fear as the bombs fall from the sky-raiders. Let's have "close-ups" of grown men lying on mud-logged duck-boards, and weeping like tiny babies, in a hell of exploding shells. Then throw in the 1 per cent. of "glory" and "fun" that completes the picture of modern warfare.—*V. C. S., Sheffield.*

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20 Articles in Suit case

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Man's fine outfit in leatherette reinforced suit case, metal fittings and locks, measuring 20 in. by 11 in., reinforced edges, lined. Consisting of two all-wool vests; two all-wool pants, double spliced and sewn; two first quality "Oxford" shirts, full cut, lined back and front, double stitched, fast colours; or two fine "Silkateen" tunic shirts, with collars to match; two pairs cashmere socks, double heels and toes; one pair elastic web braces; two fashionable silk ties; six full-sized handkerchiefs; two strong real bristle military hair-brushes. In all, twenty fully guaranteed articles for **55/-** complete

Delivered free on first payment of only 2/- and 5/- a month after.

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"So would you be if you took Yeast-Vite Tonic Tablets."

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Contains No Aspirin or Any Harmful Drugs

This Great Family Remedy will relieve

HEADACHE, NEURALGIA	in 5 minutes
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INFLUENZA, COLDS, OR FEVER	24 hours

CAUTION.

Beware of imitations. See that the name of Irving's Yeast-Vite is on every carton and bottle, and that the bottle is sealed with the Government stamp. Refuse fraudulent substitutes.

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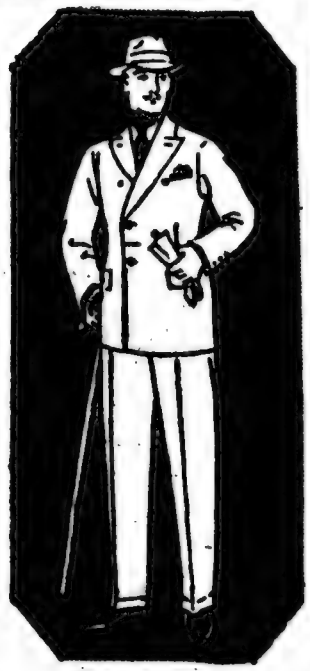

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Extract SUNDAY NEWS, Jan. 16, 1927:

"HAD TO PAY OUT OVER £20,000 .... NOT A WINNING CLIENT WAS DISAPPOINTED."

NOTHING EVER BARRED! EVERY WINNER ALWAYS PAID!

Send at once for the CHALLENGER (Credit) COUPON, 128 TEAMS — SIX DIFFERENT LISTS—and compare it with any other!

ORBINDOS TO THE END

My Final for the Lincolnshire—Cramick Each-Way—Master Billie—A Free Handicap Hint—This Week's Imperial Cup

MICAWBER-LIKE sportsmen have not received much encouragement as regards the big double. The London betting has been farcical; nearly all the acceptors in both events stand their ground; not one of the fancied probables has contracted a hacking cough, or other ailment, which usually results in long odds being offered and then a furore to get on.

HOWEVER, although trade secrets have been kept darker than ever, I am sufficiently optimistic to believe that I am giving JOHN BULL readers a good run for their money in black lettering—

ORBINDOS and MASTER BILLIE

BOTH are, unfortunately, at short prices, but there is not much point in endeavouring to beat the books when you know that you are tipping genuine candidates. Orbindos stamped himself as a good horse last season and, win or lose, he was earmarked for the Carholme race at the close of 1927. As regards Master Billie, I know that F. B. Rees fancies his mount. Providing the horse steers clear of the pitfalls, it is his opinion that "Billie" will be galloping on when most of the others left standing are stone cold.

I CAN refer to the National once more, but the first big flat race will be past history before the great majority of my followers receive next week's issue of this journal. Cutting the cackle and coming to the horses, I suggest as the best each-way bet:

CRAMICK

Best long-shot: **ORBITA**

CRAMICK—my each-way suggestion—was tried last week and did not please generally. However, I lost my faith in the Newmarket touts when one and all spread the rumour that Soranus, who won the Lincoln of 1921, was fat. They should have said fast, as he cake-walked the race. Cramick's trial, by the way, was only over five furlongs.

WAR MIST—who finished ninth in Coronach's Derby—is being sent over to take his chance in the Macomber colours. He is fairly straight in condition and has been doing good mile work during the last few weeks with a view to the Carholme event. He is as good-looking as ever, and Clout has insisted on keeping him in training in face of the suggestion of many judges that the horse would would never win a race.

OUTSIDE the Lincoln selections, another tip I am giving for the flat this week is J. Watson's selected for the Brocklesby Stakes, run on Tuesday. The Newmarket trainer nearly always has a fancied candidate for this event, and has won the race seven times. Last year he took half the spoils with Twinkling.

ONCE more I am putting up the leading five in the Free Handicap weights as a useful system for backers sufficiently strong-minded to restrict the number of their bets. They are:

FAIRWAY	..	..	9 0
HERMIT II.	..	..	9 0
BULAND	..	..	9 0
GANG WARILY		..	8 10
FLAMINGO	..	..	8 10

MR. DAWKINS' judgment of the merits of our two-year-olds, now, of course, three-year-olds, is seldom far out Last year the little group included Call Boy, Adam's Apple and Sickle. In the season before Coronach and Legatee paid their way. In 1924-25 his five at the top were Saucy Sue, Picaroon, Diomedes, Solario and Manna. Manna, Saucy Sue and Solario won all the classics. Diomedes came out as the champion sprinter, and Picaroon, after going wrong, won his last four races.

HERE is a little gem from my mail bag.

"Dear Silver Ring,—I know all about the Big Four of Scotland Yard and Big Bill Thompson of Chicago, but I am seeking information of the Big Two. Are they reliable?"

At first glance I thought my correspondent wanted more news of my selections for the Lincoln and National, but, on reaching the end of his letter, I found that he contemplated opening an account with the self-styled big two of the book-making world, Messrs. Cope and Maurice. I was able to satisfy my friend that the Big Two are as safe as the Bank. Here and there betting disputes have come my way. In the great majority of cases Messrs. Cope and Maurice have been in the right, and where the question of doubt has arisen, the backer has received the benefit.

THE "Tote" sponsors and their friends have had so much to say about racing in Australia, where the system is in vogue, that one is almost tempted to emigrate. Out there, it seems, everything appertaining to racing is perfect. However, sometimes a good story steals across the waters which shows that the small owner-trainer is not always an acquisition to the Turf. I recollect an amusing incident which took place last year. It casts no reflection on the "Tote" or its officials. One of the latter, in fact, spoiled a contemplated coup.

THE meeting was held at "Ascot" and an owner-trainer, who was not absolutely perfect, supplied his jockey with an electric battery which the rider pressed into his mount's neck in order to accelerate its speed. It was a novel form of doping, but, unfortunately for the get-rich-quick conspirators, one of the stewards noticed the horse's dash from the off and also spotted that the jockey handed the unsaddling boy the contraption after the race. Owner-trainer, jockey and boy were warned off for life.

IN the absence of form horses, it usually pays during the early weeks of the flat to follow trainers whose horses are well forward. Two to note are Jack Jarvis and Walter Griggs. Both have kept their teams hard at work in spite of the elements, and I anticipate a raid at Lincoln and Liverpool from their stables. Griggs, like Capt. Elsey, of the North, is blessed with a covered-in riding gallop. For this reason his Lincolnshire candidate, Adieu, will have plenty of admirers.

THE lure of the flat had almost driven this week's fine fixture at Sandown Park out of mind. In view of J. M. Bell's fine record in the tit-bit of the meeting, the Imperial Cup, backers will probably take sides with Hercules. Not so long ago the Epsom trainer won the race in three successive years with Trespasser, and a few years after this hat-trick took the event again with the moderate Peeping Tom. With Duller up on Hercules the combination will be hard to beat. Others I fancy are Langside and Calibre.

G. Duller

"SILVER RING."

Two coded selections will be given daily in *The Sporting Life*.

R B I D J L 2 T Y C H X E W

S O N U V G A K 3 M Q F P Z

How to read the code: In place of the letters or figures advertised in *The Sporting Life* read those above or below the line as the case may be, XG2CN1LB would read FLAMINGO.

The code will be changed in next week's JOHN BULL. It covers the racing from Wednesday, March 21, to Tuesday, March 27.

In addition to "Silver Ring's" code tips, the *Sporting Life* publishes two selections daily, sent out by the racing experts of the *Sporting Life Weekly Edition*. Don't miss them.

"Soccer" Selections

WEEK END COUPS.

6 HOME. — Birmingham, Newcastle, Grimsby, Stoke, Stockport, Northampton.
5 HOME.—Birmingham, Everton, Blackpool, Stoke, Northampton.
4 HOME.—Newcastle Grimsby, Stockport, Brighton.
3 AWAY.—Preston, Doncaster, Motherwell.
3 DRAWS.—Reading v. Leeds, Bradford v. Darlington, Brentford v. Gillingham.
3 HOME, 2 AWAY.—Birmingham, Stockport, Northampton, Doncaster, Motherwell.
1 HOME, 1 AWAY, 1 DRAW.—Stoke, Motherwell, Clyde v. Kilmarnock.
SPECIAL 5 HOME (LEAGUE I. AND II.).—Birmingham, Everton, Newcastle, Grimsby Stoke.

FORECASTS FOR MARCH 31.

THE LEAGUE—DIVISON II.
HOME WINNERS.—Arsenal, Aston Villa, Derby, Leicester, Liverpool. Sheffield U. West Ham.
AWAY WINNERS.—Bolton, Newcastle.
DRAWS.—Bury v. Huddersfield, Sunderland v. Everton.

THE LEAGUE—DIVISION II.
HOME WINNERS.—Barnsley, Fulham, Leeds, Manchester C., Port Vale, Preston, Wolverhampton.
AWAY WINNER.—Reading.
DRAWS.—Hull v. West Bromwich, Notts Forest v. Chelsea, Swansea v. Stoke.

THE LEAGUE—DIVISION III. (NORTHERN).
HOME WINNERS.—Accrington, Bradford C., Darlington, Doncaster, Lincoln, New Brighton.
AWAY WINNER.—Stockport.
DRAW.—Wigan v. Chesterfield.

THE LEAGUE—DIVISION III. (SOUTHERN).
HOME WINNERS.—Bristol R., Gillingham, Newport, Plymouth, Queen's Park Rangers, Swindon, Watford.
AWAY WINNERS. — Bournemouth, Northampton.
DRAWS.—Coventry v. Millwall, Walsall v. Brentford.

THE SCOTTISH LEAGUE.
HOME WINNERS.—Aberdeen, Celtic, Cowdenbeath, Dundee, Hearts, Motherwell, Queen's Park, Glasgow Rangers.
DRAWS.—Falkirk v. Hibernians, Kilmarnock v. Hamilton.

THE SPRING DOUBLE

Best Tips in

"THE SPORTING LIFE"

Daily 2d.

WE OFFER YOU EITHER OF THESE MAGNIFICENT WATCHES TOGETHER WITH OUR WONDERFUL

20/- FREE OFFER

for 6D. DEPOSIT

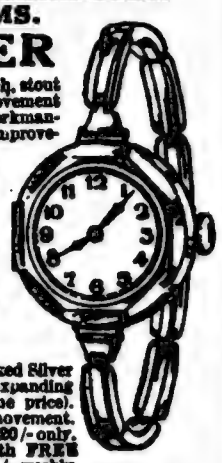
This offer is not open to Irish or Colonial readers.

We send either of these handsome watches together with our WONDERFUL FREE OFFER value 20/- upon receipt of 6d. deposit only. Send now. Don't delay.
The Bona Fide FREE Offer, together with either of these splendid watches, makes the Greatest Bargain ever offered.

READ OUR BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND GENEROUS TERMS.

8 DAY LEVER

Gent's full size Keyless 8 day Lever Watch, stout case, Jewelled interchangeable lever movement with visible escapement of highest workmanship (3 prize medals). All latest improvements including safety catch to prevent overwinding. Each watch carefully adjusted to keep accurate time. Only wants winding once a week. Fully guaranteed. Price 20/- only. Sent on receipt of 6d. deposit, together with FREE OFFER. Balance payable 2/- on receipt and 1/- weekly.



SOLID SILVER
ENGLISH HALL-MARKED
WRIST WATCH

Ladies' neat and dainty English Hall-Marked Silver Wrist Watch, complete as illustrated, with expanding bracelet of choice design (Gent's style same price). Highest grade and perfectly finished jewelled movement. Splendid timekeepers, fully guaranteed. Price 20/- only. Sent on receipt of 6d. deposit, together with FREE OFFER. Balance payable 2/- on receipt and 1/- weekly.

Cash returned in full if dissatisfied and either watch is returned within 7 days of receipt.

SIMPSONS (Brighton) LTD. (Dept. 140) 94, Queen's Road, BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

She suffered with

VARICOSE ULCERS

"I'm always trying," says the sufferer, "but nothing seems to really help me." That is precisely why this series of advertisements were prepared. Germolene is *constantly* proving effective where *other ointments and treatments completely fail.* We know what disappointment to the sufferer means. Germolene will not fail you.

Germolene — the ideal dressing for all kinds of Skin Troubles

For Ulcers, Bad Legs, Eczema, Ringworm, Burns, Scalds and Cuts—any skin trouble in fact — there is no finer treatment. Germolene makes a wound *surgically clean.* It does not smart. At once cools the wound and soothes the pain; and contains quick healing properties for the skin tissues. Use and recommend Germolene for all skin troubles.

One tin completely healed

For nearly six months I was in awful agony from Varicose Ulcers on the leg. I TRIED SEVERAL REMEDIES, but all to no avail. Then I saw Germolene advertised, and purchased one box and one package of Germolets. Before either of these were entirely used my leg had completely healed.

Mrs. Wm. Baines,
222 Littleworth Road, Hednesford, Stafford

GERMOLENE ASEPTIC SOAP
A splendid tonic if your skin is ailing or complexion poor. You will quickly notice the improvement

Germolene is the most effective treatment for—

Eczema
Infectious rashes, acne and sores. Rely on Germolene to relieve irritation and clear the skin.

Ulcers
abscesses and other ailments arising from blood impurities—take Germolets to cleanse the blood and apply Germolene — hundreds have testified to the success of this treatment.

Bad Leg
Germolene has scored many notable triumphs in the treatment of bad leg. Full directions are given in the little booklet included with every tin of Germolene.

Rashes
and impetigo — every mother should prove the value of Germolene. It is also most efficacious in cases of ringworm.

Scalds
Smear with Germolene and all the smarting and the pain will subside and the danger of blood poisoning will be prevented.

Cuts
Safety first — apply Germolene. Many have had cause to regret neglect of a small cut or scratch.

Germolene
ASEPTIC SKIN DRESSING
1/3 and 3/- A Veno Product

2/6 PER WEEK
Payable Monthly

ARIEL
The Good Cycle

Long famous for smooth running, reliability and smart appearance. Quality to the smallest detail. Wide range of models to suit all requirements. Ride these machines, they have a reputation that is a guarantee of long and faithful service.

A DEALER IN EVERY TOWN

Send for Catalogue.

ARIEL WORKS LIMITED
SELLY OAK BIRMINGHAM

Guaranteed 10 Years

The Safe, Swift & Natural Remedy.

DAISY

for Headaches, Neuralgia, Tic, & all Nerve Pains.

THE best way to end pain—also the quickest and the only harmless way—is not to drug the nerves, but to heal the nerve centres themselves, reducing their congestion, allaying their fatigue, and repairing their exhaustion.

Just because Daisy acts in this natural way, directly on these nerve centres, this unique medicine stands shoulders above acetanilid, opium, and the common aspirin remedies which depress the heart and upset the stomach.

The superiority of Daisy over aspirin is attained by the use of a medicine many times more costly than even the purest aspirin (aceto-salicylic acid).

Only the wide sale of Daisy enables the price to be brought within reach of the poorest purse. This remarkable remedy

CONTAINS NO ASPIRIN.
DOES NOT DEPRESS THE HEART.

Sold everywhere 11½*d. box. Single Powder,* 2*d. Daisy Ltd., Leeds.*

Severe CHEST Trouble CURED

Child's Life Saved!

Portess, Portsmouth.

Sir,—We have a family of five and have always been sufferers from chest troubles; in fact, one child, a girl of five, who 17 months ago we were told would not last another winter as she was so bad, and was not to go to school again, was given your Balsam of Aniseed, and she has now been at school 11 months without missing a day.—Yours thankfully,
Mr. and Mrs. H. E. YEATES.

Powell's BALSAM of ANISEED

The CERTAIN CURE for COUGHS & COLDS.

1/3, 3/- & 5/- PER BOTTLE

From Boots, Taylors, Timothy Whites, Whiteleys, Harrods, Selfridges, and all Chemists and Stores. Issued by Thomas Powell Ltd. London, S.E.

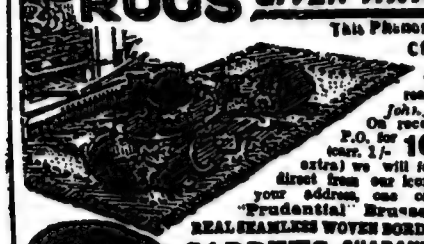
8 Blankets 21/-

The lot packed free, and sent on receipt of amount.

Money Returned in full if not fully satisfied.

2 Yorkshire Combed White Twilled Blankets, thick, warm, soft and comfortable, well finished and edged. Extra large size. 80 by 72 ins.
2 Combed White Twilled Blankets, thick, warm, soft and comfortable, well-finished and edged, size 81 by 70 ins.
2 Homespun Heather-Coloured Blankets, a most durable and useful blanket, size 80 by 70 ins., bordered.
2 Superb Quality White Blankets, soft, warm and comfortable. 82 by 72 ins. Wear guaranteed.
OFFERED BELOW WHOLESALE PRICES.

100,000 RUGS GIVEN AWAY



This Phenomenal Offer is made to the readers of *John Bull*. On receipt of P.O. for (carr. 1/- extra) we will forward direct from our looms to your address, one of our "Prudential" Brusselette REAL SEAMLESS WOVEN BORDERED

CARPETS (GUARANTEED GENUINE BARGAINS)

Suitable for Drawing-room, Dining-room, Bedroom, &c., in Turkey patterns, and fashionable shades of Crimson, Greens, Blues and Art Colourings to suit all requirements and large enough to cover any ordinary sized room. These Carpets with FREE RUGS will be sent out as Sample Carpets. They are made of material equal to wool, and can only be obtained direct from our looms, thus saving the purchaser all middle profits. Money willingly refunded if not approved.

Thousands of Repeat Orders and unsolicited Testimonials received. With every Carpet we shall absolutely give away a handsome Rug to match. Illus. Bargain Cat. of Carpets, Hearthrugs, Blankets, Curtains, &c., Post Free F. HODGSON & SONS (Dept. J.C.), Woodsley Road, LEEDS.

Great Tribute to 'ASPRO'

Professor Dr. L. Demolis expert Chemist recommended by the International Red Cross Commission says:- 'ASPRO' is Absolutely FREE from free Salicylic Acid.—

'ASPRO' is in the unique position of having Professor Dr. L. Demolis, Expert Chemist, recommended by the International Red Cross Commission at Geneva, to analyse and report on 'ASPRO.' The report is lengthy and much of it is only of interest to professional men, to whom copies will be sent on request. From the public standpoint, however, the big fact is the confirmation of 'ASPRO'S' purity and its freedom from free Salicylic Acid. It is general knowledge that free Salicylic Acid, as developed in impure aspirin, is most harmful to the health. The prevention of its development and its eradication is a costly process. 'ASPRO' has made its name by having the free Salicylic Acid eliminated and by preventing its development. As a result the medicine is so pure that even a child can take it. Its medicinal qualities are much enhanced by its 100% purity so it can be taken by young and old, anywhere and everywhere, for relieving rheumatism in one night—bringing sweet sleep to the sleepless—stopping nerve pains in five minutes, such as headache, toothache, etc. 'ASPRO' neither dopes, deadens or drugs. It acts by a soothing process which leaves a feeling of exhilaration due to the relief by freedom from pain. Still more important is the fact that 'ASPRO' when ingested in the system is antifermentative, antipyretic, antiseptic and a solvent of Uric Acid, and thus dispels the cause of numerous complaints.

What Professor Dr L Demolis Says

Rue de Hesse, 4 et boul, Georges-Favon 30, Geneve, 23rd February, 1928.
'ASPRO' made by Aspro, Limited, Slough, Bucks.

CERTIFICATE (Extract).—I have analysed, qualitatively and quantitatively, the 'ASPRO' Tablets. They contain NO FREE SALICYLIC ACID, and are extremely pure, answering in all respects the requirements of the Swiss Pharmacopœia, which governs the prescription, preparation and sale of medicaments throughout the Confederation. 'ASPRO' is pure. 99.99%-100% pure. (Signed) Yours very truly, Professor Dr. L. DEMOLIS.

This is one of the most conclusive tributes given to any medicine in the world. It amply demonstrates the claims made for 'ASPRO' from time to time.

WHAT 'ASPRO' DOES

1. It stops violent headaches in 5 to 10 minutes.
2. It brings sweet sleep to the sleepless.
3. It relieves rheumatism in one night.
4. It relieves children's growing pains.
5. It saves many a sound tooth by removing toothache.
6. It brings relief without causing sickness, indigestion or a craving.
7. It stops pain without harming the heart.
8. It soothes away irritability.
9. A hot lemon drink and two or three "ASPRO" Tablets will smash up a Cold or 'Flu attack in one night.
10. It reduces temperature in 5 minutes.
11. It can be taken any time, in Tube, Train, at Home, at Business—anywhere—everywhere.
12. It is so safe a child can take it.
13. It is the greatest help for women every little while ever known.
14. It stops the ill after-effects of alcohol.

A HOT LEMON DRINK WITH 2 'ASPRO' TABLETS WILL SMASH UP A COLD OR 'FLU ATTACK IN ONE NIGHT

OBTAINABLE AT ALL CHEMISTS AND STORES EVERYWHERE.

6D. & 1/3 Per Packet

'ASPRO' consists of the purest Acetyl Salicylic Acid that has ever been known to Medical Science, and its claims are based on its superiority.

Agents: GOLLIN & CO. PTY. LTD. ('Aspro' Dept.), SLOUGH, Bucks.
Telephone: SLOUGH 608

No proprietary right is claimed in the method of manufacture or the formula.

ASPRO REGD. TRADE MARK

To Avoid Disappointment ABSOLUTELY REFUSE A Substitute

Simply Marvellous Value

THIS Fashionable Tailored SKIRT FOR 1/- WITH ORDER

This Offer is surely a Bargain of Bargains—a really attractive well-made Skirt in good wearing suiting material for 4/11, and sent to you at once on approval for 1/- Deposit!

Only my immense buying and manufacturing facilities make such a wonderful Offer possible.

The Skirt is tailored in suiting with a small indefinite pattern effect, to which the illustration cannot do justice; you must see the garment to appreciate it.

It is fitted into strong cotton Basque with elastic band. There are two pleats at each side, machined at top. A really smart garment.

MY PRICE 4/11 ONLY.

I will send it to you for a 1/- Deposit and, if preferred, you may pay the small balance 1/- weekly. I have offered many Bargains, but never one to surpass this. Why not send Coupon now?

PREDOMINANT COLOURS: Parma, Raspberry, Woodland Brown, or New Blue.

SIZES (from Waistband to Hem): 26, 28, and 30 inches. 32 inch length, 6d. extra.

Please take measurement very carefully.

S.30 BARGAIN COUPON.

Please send me on approval Skirt S. 30 at present Bargain Price of 4/11.

Length .....

Colour .....

I enclose 1/- deposit, together with 6d. for postage, and will pay balance of price either in one sum or by weekly instalments of 1/- or more. If not satisfied and I return the Skirt at once you will refund my deposit. Enclose coupon with name and full address and Postal Order crossed thus / / "John Bull," 24/3/28. No. 509.

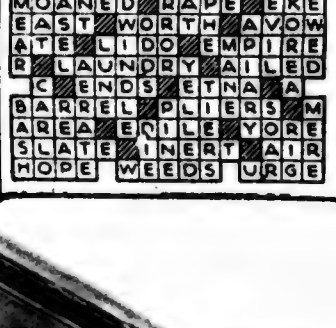
Post Order to:
AMBROSE WILSON, Ltd., 509, Allen House, 70, Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, S.W.1.

to Asthma sufferers instant relief!

Potter's Asthma Cure makes breathing easy, gives comfort by day and peaceful sleep at night. It works wonders in Bronchitis, Catarrh and Whooping Cough. *Best remedy for Bronchitis of Children.* All who are subject to chest or lung troubles should keep a tin handy, for prevention is better than cure. Potter's Asthma Cure is entirely free from opiates and cannot cause headache. Of all chemists 1/6, or post free 1/9 from Potter & Clarke, Ltd., 60, Artillery Lane, London, E.1.

POTTER'S ASTHMA CURE

When outdoors smoke Potter's Asthma Cigarettes, 1/6 for box of 18, or Smoking Mixture in 9d. tins.



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Solution to the Cross-word Puzzle in our last issue.

This week's puzzle is on page 38.

FREED in 5 DAYS of SERIOUS RHEUMATIC ATTACK!

LINCOLN STREET, BRISTOL.

Dear Sirs,—I was taken seriously ill with RHEUMATISM in every part of my body. My feet and hands swelled enormously. The pain in my head was so intense. I thought I should lose my senses, my temperature rose to 106°. Within 5 days of taking URACE I was out of bed and able to stroll in the open.

Yours faithfully,
W. THREADER.

URACE and URACE alone, can cure Rheumatism. It directly attacks the cause—uric acid—dissolves and expels it from the system and prevents its reappearance. That is why it CURES and CURES QUICKLY. 1/3, 2/- & 5/- per box, from Boots, Timothy White and Co., Taylors, and all Chemists and Stores, or direct from the URACE Laboratories, 82, 84 Thanet Street, London, S.E.1.

URACE TABLETS FOR RHEUMATISM

JOHN BULL Replies

THE Editor may be flippant on this page, but his humour is kindly and never malicious. He likes to end up the week's work on a bright note. Serious questions are dealt with by the expert staff of our Free Advice Service.

* * *

P. L. (Surbiton).—"I work in a Government office." Ha! Ha!

LOVER (York).—"She is the breath of my life." Then hold your breath.

R. L. (Tadcaster).—"My boy has a handsome figure." In the bank?

A. M. (Brentwood).—"I always keep my word." Can't you find anybody willing to take it?

C. H. G. (Harrogate).—"My wife had my slippers ready for me." And what is it this time—a new hat?

W. V. (Harrow).—"Life is but a game of cards." But one should score by honours, not by tricks.

T. E. (Tilbury).—"Does ever a man reken to find himself famous?" Only if he's been wide awake all the time.

DRAPER (Bradford).—"How would you dress your window if you were me?" Put plenty of mirrors in it.

W. R. L. (Forfar).—"How can I check my wife's extravagance in gloves?" Buy her a few diamond rings.

F. H. (Morecambe).—"Will you kindly give my poem a cursory examination?" It wouldn't be kind to curse.

ELLEN (Gargrave).—"I could never marry a man who snores." And how do you propose to find out?

T. R. (Glasgow).—"More girls than ever are becoming office workers." But are we more becoming than others.

ROSINA K. (Elstree).—"I am going to have my chestnut hair blonded, but don't tell anyone else." Hadn't you better keep it dark yourself?

J. S. (Leeds).—"I can clean, cook and manage boys for a family." But where will you find a family that wants boys cleaned and cooked?

R. H. K. (Kenley).—"The motorist didn't stop after knocking me down." Perhaps he thought he would learn all the details through the newspapers.

MRS. F. (Denby Dale).—"Why couldn't a man pay for his wife's wedding dress?" Why should a mouse pay for the trap in which it is caught?

H. J. (Farnborough).—"It doesn't cost much to give a few crumbs of comfort to the poor." Which is probably the reason why so few ever get a square meal.

E. M. (Doncaster).—"I'm well off, but bored terribly from *ennui*." Which merely means you're tired of doing nothing because too lazy to do something.

C. C. (Dawlish).—"Income-tax authorities deem a wife's income as part of her husband's." Most wives deem their husband's income as the whole of hers.

WITH the best intentions in the world, your friends cannot always put you on the right track when some trouble overtakes you. It is professional advice that you need, and this you can get from JOHN BULL'S Free Advice Service. Send particulars of your worry (written in ink), with stamped addressed envelope, and expert advisers will tell you how to proceed.

T. B. (Deansgate).—"I know a thing or two." Certainly not more than two.

B. T. (Penge).—"Wisdom comes with age." How nice to be so young as you are!

C. Y. (Putney).—"She inherited £100,000 and then married a struggling lawyer." We'll bet he didn't struggle much.

DAISY (Merton).—"I wish I had my sister's complexion." Does she keep it locked up?

H. E. (Tamworth).—"I'm an artist and I work like a horse." Do you draw carts?

G. N. (Dudley).—"What makes a play a success?" The most popular recipe at present seems to be pyjamas.

A. N. (Goole).—"I try to live within my income." It's best that way or you may have to live without it.

G. M. (London, E.).—"I saw him alone." But weren't you with each other?

L. G. (Chalk Farm).—"Our maid is a vigorous tennis player." Is she good at smashing services?

A. N. (Dover).—"I have seen teeth extracted on the stage." It must have been a great draw!

T. T. (Crewe).—"Is there anything certain in this life?" Every horse in a race is, if you ask enough people.

B. T. (Jarrow).—"Tinned foods injure the teeth." Then why not use a tin-opener instead of biting them?

S. N. (Chelsea).—"I can't stand travelling on the Underground." Lots of people have to stand travelling on the Underground.

F. N. (Woolwich).—"I sent you an article by registered post." You shouldn't have bothered; it's not valuable.

G. N. (Henley).—"My four brothers have called on you, and now I propose to do the same." We shall be glad to see the last of you.

SISSIE (Golders Green).—"I dreamt last night I married the wisest, wittiest, and handsomest man in the whole world." You make us blush!

MRS. L. (Warwick).—"A large new slate quarry has been found in our county." S—hush! Don't let our coal merchant get to hear of it.

T. B. (Loughton).—"A high school for girls is to be built here." This seems to bear out the recent contention that girls are growing taller.

T. B. (Barking).—"How many outdoor statues are there in London?" We don't know. We don't care for morbid statistics.

MRS. S. (Isleworth).—"I wonder what you'd do with the income of a Rothschild?" It would be much more interesting to know what a Rothschild would do with ours.

A. P. (Windsor).—"The lady motorist in front of me put out her hand." What did she do then? Go back, forward, to the right, left, or did she just want to see if it was raining?

W. W. (Finchley).—"What qualification is necessary for a man to become a diplomat?" Ability to convince his wife that women in new fur coats look awfully stout and vulgar.

G. A. (Leeds).—"Do you find boys of to-day quick?" Yes, at getting tired.

SCHOOLBOY (Brighton).—"What's the half of a thirty-seventh?" Darned little.

T. L. (Hull).—"She was black all over." How on earth do you know?

D. P. (Richmond).—"I found you in on Tuesday." It was our luck that was out.

MRS. B. (Bradford).—"What is necessary in order to get a divorce?" Marriage.

MRS. H. (Watford).—"Women can't live without men." And some of them can't live with them.

G. C. (Hyde).—"A determined man can do anything." Bet you can't bang a revolving-door.

F. O. T. (Newmarket).—"What do grammarians mean by 'a collective'?" The dustman.

H. H. (Audley).—"There is a machine which can tell when a man is lying." And many a man has married it.

E. B. (Twickenham).—"I asked if he could fight and he said no." Then you started, we suppose.

N. T. (Scarborough).—"All together, five of my family play the piano." You must have a very wide piano!

G. L. (Balham).—"She deceived me, but we made it up and are engaged again." Another delusion hugged!

NINA (Hampstead).—"I had nineteen proposals last summer." Why didn't you accept him?

L. P. (Hornby).—"Are frog skins good for anything?" Yes, they are excellent for keeping frogs in.

E. D. (Hammersmith).—"Has a man been to see you with one eye named Bob?" What's the other eye called?

E. T. (Rusholme).—"I'm doing well in business to-day." Then take care you aren't done in business to-morrow.

MRS. A. (Bradford).—"Men don't love their wives as they thought they would before marriage." That's only because they don't think before marriage.

R. C. (Lincoln).—"Wire me if I've won that 'Ideal Home' Prize." With pleasure. Meanwhile, wire in yourself for the *Bullets* "Record Four" this week.

G. M. (Hackney).—"Fewer people are learning to play the piano nowadays." But the trouble is that so many who already can't play, do.

K. T. (Granley).—"He says that I'm just an average man, but I'm sure I am cleverer than that." That just proves that you are an average man.

HETTY (Oxted).—"He vowed he'd face death for me and the next thing he ran away from the dog." We expect he discovered the dog wasn't dead.

MRS. E. (Brixton).—"Why call a woman a 'lady' when all are females?" Because though every woman is a female every female is not a lady.

MRS. J. (Ramsgate).—"During the war all my sons fought for dear life." And you must admit we've had it ever since.

MRS. L. (Brixton).—"Married women with the vote are glad the B.B.C. has lifted the ban on controversial subjects." And married men are surprised to learn that any subjects are non-controversial.

"ELLA" (Cardiff).—"What is the plural of sugar?" Lumps.

MISS K. (Bentley).—"What is a maiden speech?" "I will."

SCRIBE (New Cross).—"Why was my article turned down?" It didn't turn up.

T. R. A. (Liverpool).—"They allow me my milk in addition to my wages." When are you going to be weaned?

G. P. (Penkhull).—"The number of beauty-parlours is increasing." But the number of beauties isn't.

G. S. (Jarrow).—"Our kitchen needs whitewashing, and I am going to put it on myself." We bet you will.

BACKER (Hale End).—"What is the usual limit for bookmakers?" About ten miles an hour.

F. M. (Hoxton).—"My wife and I are fond of the same thing, so we are happy." You mean she is as fond of you as you are?

M. H. G. (Yarmouth).—"The Scot went right off his head." We guess he bought a score card when there was no score.

C. F. (Gargrave).—"Rubber bricks will soon be a commonplace." The information has greatly cheered football referees.

MRS. N. (Tewkesbury). — "Many women engage maids who would be better if they did the work themselves." Many women engage maids and still have to do the work themselves.

(Many replies unavoidably held over.)

FOR range, volume and purity. For economy and long life, always insist upon Mullard P.M. Radio Valves with the wonderful Mullard P.M. Filament. They improve every radio receiver.

Mullard

THE·MASTER·VALVE

Advt. The Mullard Wireless Service Co., Ltd., Mullard House, Denmark St., London, W.C.2.

INDIGESTION STOPS AT ONCE

Whatever strides science may have made in combating diseases, no better remedy has been discovered for stopping indigestion than half-a-teaspoonful of 'Bisurated' Magnesia or two or three tablets in a little water right after eating or whenever pain is felt. 'Bisurated' Magnesia is to-day used by thousands of stomach sufferers with never-failing success, it treats indigestion in the only logical way, by instantly neutralising excess acids, preventing fermentation, soothing, healing and strengthening the inflamed stomach lining, which soon becomes healthy and strong. 'Bisurated' Magnesia is sold by all chemists at 1s. 3d. a package. It is the remedy that is recommended by doctors. It is used in hospitals and by thousands of one-time sufferers who have proved again and again that 'Bisurated' Magnesia is an unfailing reliever of all acid-caused digestive troubles.

Headache

NEURALGIA-TOOTHACHE

One or two Antikamnia Tablets will banish a headache quickly, stop any pain and end insomnia and nervousness. A-K also breaks up colds and fevers. Being a scientific balanced formula Antikamnia is safe and relief is certain. Prescribed by Doctors for more than 35 years. At all Chemists 1/3, 3/- and 7/6, "A-K" on each Tablet. Millions used annually. Write for FREE SAMPLE.

Anti-Kamnia

Quick Relief from Pains and Aches

AK—FREE TRIAL TREATMENT COUPON

Please send me free of all cost Trial package

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ADDRESS.....

.....

(AV98 Dept.) 46 Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.1.

PSORIASIS

Eczema and all other Skin Diseases Completely and Permanently cured by this wonderful Herbal Treatment, which gets right down to the root of the trouble in the system. Every case treated individually with an experience extending over 40 years. Send post card for FREE BOOK sent under plain cover.

J. ROBINSON & SONS,
11, KUREM HOUSE, BRADFORD.

ARE YOU TOO OLD YOUNG MAN?

Are you feeling too old and worn-out when you should be full of life? Do you find yourself suffering from Backache, Fatigue, Weakness, Rheumatism, Loss of Appetite, Sleeplessness, and unable to enjoy the pleasures of life? If so, you need De Witt's Kidney and Bladder Pills, the medicine doctors and people all over the World recommend.

Get a bottle from your chemist, take two before you go to bed and one before each meal. You will wake up in the morning feeling strong and fresh, full of life and ready for both work and pleasure. There is no other medicine which gives this quick, certain benefit.

DE WITT'S KIDNEY & BLADDER PILLS

"The Greatest of These . . . ."

Humble Heroines

An Office Cleaner's Story

"THEY are heroines, these humble charwomen," declared Lord Riddell when he recently presided over the centenary Court of Governors at the Royal Free Hospital.

And it is the sad story of one such heroine to which we would draw our readers' attention.

She has a temporary job cleaning offices, for which she receives 12s. 6d. weekly.

As she goes about her work, her mind is distracted and sorrow laden because her husband, who was a gunner on active service from 1916 to 1919, is now a patient in a Glasgow hospital, suffering from creeping paralysis with no hope of recovery.

He has been unable to follow his employment for the last four years, and now he is a permanent invalid.

There is no pension, and in addition to the 12s. 6d. his wife is earning as a temporary cleaner she has only a small sum from his National Health Insurance and a friendly society.

"I have struggled," she writes, "to pay my monthly rent of 26s. 11d. up till now, but am at a deadlock. Clothes and boots are being worn out and can't be replaced.

"Besides having the house rent to pay and provide for myself, I have my daughter, aged six and a half years, to support."

Judging from the few lines of praise received from a J.P. on this cleaner's behalf, Lord Riddell's further comment on charwomen and their patient work—"They are the salt of the earth"—is very applicable in her case, as also in the case of many another hard-hit humble hero and heroine for whom we plead.

"The Greatest of These—"

Registered under the War Charities Act as the JOHN BULL *War Sufferers' Fund. All cheques should be made payable to the Fund, and donations addressed to* **The Hon. Secretary, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.** *Every penny that is subscribed to "The Greatest of These—" Fund goes to give help to the needy. All the expenses of administration are borne by* JOHN BULL.

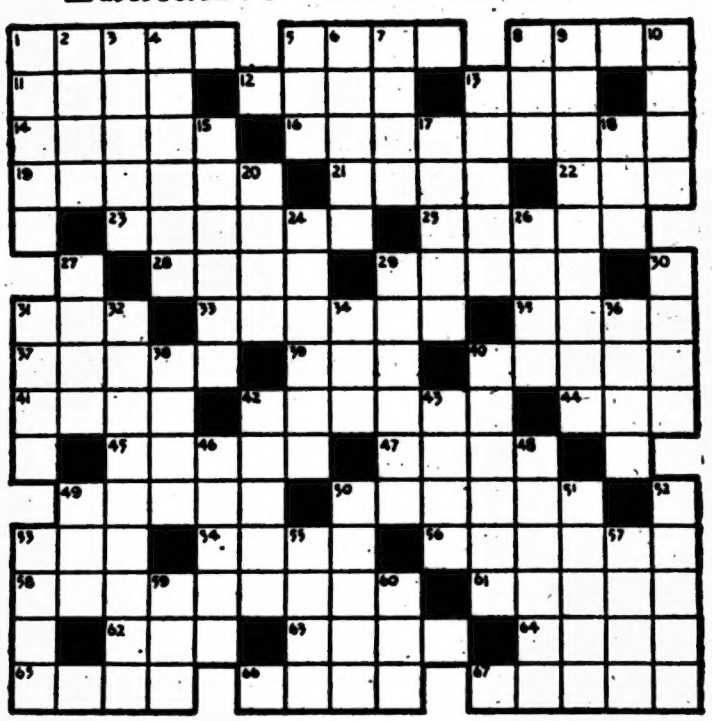
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Razor (Exmouth), 1s.; A. and E. F. (Sevenoaks), 3s.; Bill and Lott, 1s.; 1/10 Dingle, 6s.; Regular Reader (Duxford), 1s. 6d.; Mrs. L. Westropp Dawson, 10s.; A. A. and W. Windsor (Barnet), 10s.; H. Shannon (Holywood), 2s. 6d.; A. B. (Peterborough), £1; Lucky One (Chingford), 5s.; Mrs. Harmer (Norwich), 5s.; S. A. G., 1s.; F. F., 1s.; Sympher, 2s. 6d.; R. M. L. I., £1; Unlucky Mollie, 1s. 1d.; Working Mother, 2s. 6d.; A J.B. Reader, 10s.; Mrs. N. Whittaker (Stockport), 9d.; D. Regan, 1s.; R. Wheeler (Henley-on-Thames), 2s. 6d.; G. W. Holkham, 5s.; Wm. Bingham (Norwich), 1s.; Miss Lillian C., 1s. 8d.; John Ross (Belfast), 10s.; Mrs. F. Best, 5s.; A. U. L., 2s. 6d.; G. T. M. (Huddersfield), 2s. 6d.; F. and J. (Wakefield), 1s.; Anon., 2s.; Wm. Emmett, 5s.; F. A. (Smethwick), 2s. 6d.; A Reader, 3s.; Mary Thompson, 5s.; J. H. 44, 6d.; Jan. 1st., 1s. 4½d.; B. E. E., 2s.; Football Competition (York), 5s.; Mary, 1s. 6d.; Ossie-twistle (Lancashire), 5s.; F. G. Allen (Ottawa), 5s.; W. H. C. (Mirfield), 5s.; The 74's, 5s.; Children of Constant Reader, 1s.; C. P. (B'stone, Sarum), 2s. 6d.; Emmie, 2s.; T. B. W., £1 1s.; D. H. Evans, 2s. 6d.; K. A. B., £5; M. Sleading (Longtown), 2s.; Anon., 10s.; J. E. Aston, 5s.; One, 2s. 6d.; H. S. (Maidstone), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. W. F. Blackwood (Kilmarnock), 2s. 6d.; Jumping Joshua, 2s.; See-are-See (Southampton), 2s. 6d.; Pontypriddian's Tenth, 1s.; C. A. C. (B'head), 10d.; Anon. (King's Lynn), 1s.; Mrs. H. Latimore, 1s. 6d.; Miss Anna Marsh (St. John, V.I.), 16s. 7d.; Hope Deferred, 10s.; Pensioner (R.W.131), 10s.; J. M. Coombs (Clapham), 5s.; Mrs. L. M. Young (Bournemouth), 2s.; Ucalite, 5s.; Mr. William Hart (Dunbar), 6d.; M. Powditch, 1s.; Mrs. Pollie Stubbs, 6d.; P. P. Hanley (Manchester), 6d.; Every Little Helps, 6d.; C. B., 1s.; Miss E. M. Stevenson, 9d.; T. J. Hammond (Leicester), 1s.; Mrs. K. M. Bennett (Bexhill-on-Sea), 1s.; Mr. John Wilkinson (Stoke-on-Trent), 5s.; L. W. T. (Southampton), 2s. 6d.; Mr. W. W. Baker and Family, 3s.;

(Other acknowledgments on page 2.)

Our Cross-Word Corner

Educative Entertainment



CLUES ACROSS

1. A collapse.
5. Placid.
8. Ecclesiastic.
11. Floating structure.
12. Starchy food.
13. To hasten.
14. Star-like flower.
16. Innocent.
19. Muscled.
21. Mohammedan chief.
22. Obese.
23. A meal.
25. Cash.
28. Clover.
29. Name for certain skin diseases.
31. To sigh.
33. Consisting of minute particles.
35. A portico.
37. Bad in the highest degree.
39. Kind of sail.
40. Severe.
41. An approach.
42. Decidedly.
44. Blackleg.
45. Subdued.
47. To weary.
49. Bet.
50. Act of watching.
53. An age.
54. Earth.
56. Invective poem.
58. Kind of riddle.
61. A fine material.
62. Wrath.
63. Conception.
64. A promontory.
65. Scottish seaside resort.
66. Belgian canal.
67. Concur.

CLUES DOWN

1. Packing case.
2. Hasty.
3. Later.
4. Boiled.
5. Vehicle.
6. A tag.
7. Leafy mould.
8. To be ill.
9. Yeoman of the Guard.
10. Hitherto.
13. Wading bird.
15. To recapitulate.
17. Copy.
18. Speak.
20. Silly.
24. Dull.
26. A snug abode
27. Disposition.
29. Theatrical apparel.
30. To sham piety.
31. To incline.
32. A silvery-white alloy.
34. Drinking vessel.
36. Spoken.
38. Hunted animal.
40. Pertaining to Syria.
42. The tyrannical king.
43. Form the mouth.
46. Intervening.
48. Chewing and swallowing.
49. To court.
50. Dodge.
51. Large passenger boat.
52. Rigid.
53. Reverberated sound.
55. The rainbow.
57. English flower.
59. Vessel.
60. French for "sea."

The solution of our last week's Puzzle will be found on page 36

FREE ECZEMA CURE.

Instant Relief for all Skin Sufferers.

You can stop that awful itch from Eczema or other skin disease in just two seconds. This seems to good to be true, but it is true. A few drops of D.D.D. Prescription will instantly stop the most terrible itch or skin irritation. This discovery of Dr. D. Deands has become famous throughout the world as the most wonderful and reliable remedy for skin Diseases, for it sinks deep into the pores, kills the diseased germs, washes them away, and leaves the skin clean and pure. D.D.D. Prescription Cures Eczema, Psoriasis, Bad Leg, and all other Diseases of the Skin and Scalp. It never fails to give relief. Then why delay? A FREE TRIAL BOTTLE WILL BE SENT TO ALL SKIN SUFFERERS WHO WRITE TO THE D.D.D. LABORATORIES, M.N., 19, FLEET LANE, LONDON, E.C.4.

GRAVES

SEMI-FOLDING CAR

Light, strong, comfortable. Tubular Handle, Steel Frame, padded seat, collapsible back, draught-proof sides, leather safety strap. Upholstered Navy Blue leather-cloth. 10in wheels, fitted wired-on rubber tyres. Price 22/- Carriage 4/- new, and 4/- per month. Write for Catalogue Post Free.

J. G. GRAVES LTD., SHEFFIELD.

HAIR-GROWING DISCOVERY

I was bald. My hair grew anew, as shown in the portrait. Many persons—both men and women—who were completely bald have grown a full crop of beautiful hair by using KOTALKO.

Marvellous and speedy growth of hair has been reported even when falling hair, dandruff and baldness have existed for years.

A testing box of KOTALKO may be obtained by sending threepence in stamps to

JOHN HART BRITTAIN, LTD.,
2, Percy Street (53 M.A.), London, W.1.

Are you a

Good Judge of FICTION?

20 Stories Free to put you to the test.

THOSE heroes of fiction—have you the feeling that you have met them before or are they entirely new creations of flesh and blood? Those plots—are they worn threadbare, or do they keep you "guessing"? When you have finished a story do you say "not bad" or "By Jove! What a yarn!"

So that you may revel in what in our opinion is each month the finest collection of stories ever gathered together under the one cover, we offer to send you a specimen copy of the "20 STORY" Magazine (price One Shilling) entirely free and without obligation. The only thing we ask you to do is to send 2½d. in stamps to cover cost of postage. Give yourself a treat by accepting this offer to-day. Address: "20 Story Magazine, Dept. J., 85, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Please do not forget to enclose a 2½d. stamp to cover return postage.

ANOTHER RECORD ONE-WEEK OFFER

'BULLETS' 1ST £250 'BULLETS' 2ND £200 'BULLETS' 3RD £150 'BULLETS' 4TH £100

OTHER AWARDS
10 OF £5
10 OF £2·10
100 OF 10/-
500 OF 2/6
8,000 TARGET PRIZES

FOUR 3-FIGURE PRIZES TO BE WON!

£600 for Mother!

"FOUR little words have worked wonders for me," writes Mrs. G. V. Powley, of 72, York Road, Great Yarmouth, who won the £600 First Prize in Competition No. 668.

"£600 is a huge sum to me," runs her letter, "and I am feeling very glad and happy." Mrs. Powley's coupon bore the name "G. V. Powley," but as she is married and has a little family, we owe her our apologies for announcing the winner as "Mr. G. V. Powley," and our congratulations upon scoring another *Bullets* victory for the ladies!

One Week to Win!

Of all the novel one-week offers of the year, none has been planned on such original lines as *Bullets* No. 671.

A record "Big Four" of £250, £200, £150 and £100 is the startling feature of this week's prize-list. *Four* three-figure prizes in one week sets up a new record for *Bullets* offers and four good *Bullets* are needed for these substantial cheques. You have one week only to enter—quick!

The result of Competition No. 668 ("Bullets" £600 Guineas Ideal Home Offer) will appear in our issue published April 6th.

"BULLETS" RULES.

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what in the opinion of the judges in consultation with the Editor is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality.

2. Only two attempts may be written on each coupon, and a postal order must be enclosed at the rate of 6d. for each coupon made use of. This must be made payable to John Bull and crossed and Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses on the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly stated on each coupon submitted. Coupons must not be mutilated.

3. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

4. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects. The acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

5. Employees of Odhams Press are not eligible to compete.

The original cheque for £600 awarded to the First Prize-winner in "Bullets" No. 668 will be displayed in the window of Mr. Middleton, Hamilton Road, Great Yarmouth.

ADVANCE EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" No. 673.

RISING TO BRITAIN
DO YOUR DUTY
OTHER NATIONS
LEAD TO HEAVEN
GOT A JOB?"
MACHINERY OF THE LAW
NURSE
GIRLS
WAYS HELPS
LIFE'S LIKE
MOTORING
BLUE BLOOD
SAFER
FOR NOTHING
TICKLES ME
A GOOD TIME
SELF-MADE MAN
IMMORTALITY
IF WIVES WERE PAID
WHAT THE LOVER SAID
WHAT IS SPEED?

How To Make "Bullets."

THERE is nothing difficult about *Bullets*. All you have to do is this. Select any of the *Examples* below—then give any TWO, THREE, or FOUR words with some bearing upon it. The following specimen "Bullets" have all won big prizes:—

Example:—How To Behave
Bullet:—Forget "Self," Not "Yourself."
Example:—Needs Reducing
Bullet:—Church, To "Common Denomination."
Example:—A Tragedy
Bullet:—Pawnbroker's "Pledge" Substituting Government's.

Enclose a postal order at the rate of 6d. for each coupon used—*see Rule 2.*

EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" 671.

IN BRITAIN'S EYES
WE WANT
LEAGUE SHIP
CUTTING
FARMER GILES
IN OFFICE HOURS
A GREAT MAN
TIME TO PLAY
SEEDS OF SUCCESS
BANNED
A CUCKOO
ANOTHER WAR
IN THESE DAYS
OUR AEROPLANES
WHAT THE DIPLOMAT SAID
MARRIED BLISS
BETTER THAN NOTHING
CAN'T STAND
HEALTHIER
IF SUNDAY WERE ABOLISHED
A BAD PENNY
MORE SUNSHINE
HARMLESS
WORTH SEEING
"COME IN!"
WHEN FATHER RETIRES
WHAT'S WRONG WITH HER
SAFE HOME
LET'S HOPE
PROUDLY
ALL THROUGH LIFE
WHAT IS GENIUS?

ADDRESS COUPONS: "Bullets" No. 671, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2 (Comp.)

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, March 29.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(671) P.O. No. _____ Signed _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 1 Coupon, send P.O. for 6d. Address _____

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, March 29.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(671) P.O. No. _____ Signed _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 2 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s. Address _____

Use Two, Three or Four words. Enter name and address on each coupon.

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, March 29.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(671) P.O. No. _____ Signed _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 3 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s. 6d. Address _____

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, March 29.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(671) P.O. No. _____ Signed _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 4 Coupons, send P.O. for 2s. Address _____

If you wish to send in further "Bullets" you can write them on plain paper.

SPECIAL NEWSAGENTS' PRIZES.—Cheques for £5, £3, £2 and £1 respectively will be paid to the Newsagents from whom the winners of the four chief "Bullets" Prizes in Competition No. 671 have purchased their copies of "John Bull."

£600 FIRST PRIZE and 100 £4-4-0 GRAMOPHONES

Great Epidemic of DEADLY CATARRH

(Chronic Cold in the Head)

10 DAYS' FREE TRIAL OF MARVELLOUS NEW REMEDY

SEND A POSTCARD TO-DAY.

Over 4 Years' Splendid Health After 6 Years' Catarrhal Misery!

MR. HUNTINGTON.

Mr. J. Huntington, 44, Church Street, Caldewgate, Carlisle, writes:—"It is now over 4 years since your wonderful 'Shirley System' completely cured me after suffering 6 years from Catarrh, head noises, cough, etc. The cure has proved absolutely permanent and I still enjoy perfect health, in spite of the bad weather. All he unpleasant symptoms have gone. Days that were once a misery are now a pleasure and I work with zest. Every sufferer should go ahead, lose no time and give your 'golden treatment' a trial."—March 8th, 1928.

2½ Years Without Catarrh After 10 Years' Suffering!

MR. A. WILLDIG.

Mr. F. Willdig, 15, West Street, Kettlebrook, nr. Tamworth, writes: "I can confidently tell you I have never had a return of that dreadful complaint Catarrh since the 'Shirley System' cured me over 2½ years ago. I had been suffering for ten years. Now, thanks to your wonderful treatment, I have never felt better in my life. I have been a new man since you cured me. The 'Shirley System' stopped my constant colds, restored taste and smell and abolished my head noises. I feel it my duty to tell all sufferers this."—March 7th, 1928.

Lifelong Catarrh Ended! Cure Has Lasted 3½ Years.

MRS. GREEN.

Mrs. Green, 18, Exeter Street, Gateshead, writes:—"3½ years ago, after lifelong suffering from Catarrh, I was completely cured by the 'Shirley System.' In one month I was restored to perfect health. The Catarrh was quite gone and lots of other ailments besides! I had previously spent huge sums of money in vain on so-called Remedies. I still enjoy perfect health and life is now a pleasure. Your treatment is indeed a marvellous cure, and I do not hesitate to recommend it to anyone. I am more than satisfied."—March 7th, 1928.

10 Years' Catarrh; 3 Years' Deaf. Cure Still Complete After 4½ Years.

MISS HEYS.

Miss Heys, 1, Victoria Street, Southport, writes:—"Nearly 4½ years ago I tried the 'Shirley System' for my case of Chronic Catarrh, Deafness, and Head Noises. I had suffered for 10 years from Catarrh, etc., and for three years from Deafness. A month's course of your treatment cured me and the wonderful improvement it brought about in my case is still maintained. I feel quite well now; I have been so all through the severe winter and have been able to go out in all weathers."—March 6th, 1928.

A veritable epidemic of Catarrh is sweeping the British Isles at present. Our treacherous climate scores again:

Are YOU a victim of this dangerous ailment? If so, don't neglect it, or regard it with indifference, or it may endanger your life. Write to me to-day for a 10 Days'-Free Trial of my well-known "Shirley System," which will give you immediate relief and hasten cure.

I have specialised in the treatment, relief and cure of this distressing and endangering condition for many years, and I would strongly advise every sufferer to give my system a personal trial just now. The symptoms are easy for any one to diagnose.

—If phlegm drops into the back of your throat.
—If you are liable to recurring colds.
—If your head feels "stuffy" and confused.
—If you have frontal headaches.
—If you suffer from difficulty of hearing.
—If your nostrils are clogged or "running."
—If you feel tired on rising.
—If you suffer from strange "head noises."
—If your eyes are "watery."
—If "crusts" form in the nose.
—If your mouth and throat are dry and painful.
—If you expectorate often.
—If your sense of smell is impaired.
—If your breath is "bad" and your mouth "dirty."
—If you have pain over the eyes,

or if you have a dry, hot skin, and alternate fits of heat and cold, you are almost certainly suffering from Catarrh.

Doctors now realise that Catarrh is dangerous. It not only causes much suffering and distress, but it has a high rate of mortality, because the slimy and poisonous mucus flows downwards (especially during sleep) into the stomach, intestines and other organs, causing Malnutrition, Debility, and a Catarrhal condition of the whole inner man that lowers resisting power to disease, and leads to such deadly ailments as Gastric Catarrh, Intestinal Catarrh, and even Consumption itself.

If you are in the grip of Catarrh don't delay, but write to me to-day for a

10 DAYS' FREE TRIAL OF THE "SHIRLEY SYSTEM"

and see how soon it will save you from the miseries and risks of Catarrh in all its forms, including Catarrhal Deafness and Gastric Catarrh.

It will bring you relief from the very first. The stuffed up passages get clear, easy nasal breathing follows, head noises disappear. Headaches, too, become things of the past, and your whole system is completely cleared of the poisonous and slimy mucus. It will lift the Crushing Burden of Catarrh from your shoulders like magic.

Just send me your name and address TO-DAY (a postcard will do) for a 10 Days' Free Trial of my "Shirley System." No matter how often you have been disappointed before or how long you have suffered, don't despair until you have tried my wonderful Treatment. Address: Elmer Shirley, 35, Gray's Inn Road (C.565), London, W.C.1.

(Personal consultations by appointment, 3 to 4 o'clock daily except Saturdays.)

Wonderful to Hear Again! Nearly 3 Years' Cured.

MR. G. TAYLOR.

Mr. George Taylor, Hill Barn, Compton, Abdale, Glos., writes:—"Almost three years ago you completely cured me in a month of Deafness and head noises, from which I had suffered for several years. Not for one instance since has there been the slightest return of the complaints. It is wonderful to be able to hear again after being deaf so long. The 'Shirley System' is truly remarkable in its curative properties. For the great benefits I have derived from your wonderful treatment I show my appreciation by advising other sufferers to try it."—March 3rd, 1928.

2 Years' Catarrh and Distressing Headaches Banished.

MR. W. PLESTER.

Mr. William Plester, 82A, Huntsmoor Road, East Hill, Wandsworth, S.W.18, writes:—"For two years I suffered from Catarrh, frequent sneezing, and occasional head noises. I could hardly keep my head up owing to severe pains across eyes and forehead. I slept badly. The 'Shirley System' was completely successful. It rid me entirely of the distressing headaches. This was fourteen months ago. Up to the present there has been no returns."—February, 27th, 1928.

Constant Catarrh Sufferer Cured Nearly 6 Months' Now.

MR. DOMMETT.

Mr. S. Dommett, 4, Hillside, Cotleigh, near Honiton, writes:—"The 'Shirley' System completely cured my case of Catarrh about six months ago, and I have been waiting to see if the cure was permanent. I find that it is. There has not been the slightest return of the trouble since. For nine months I was always catching colds, sneezing, and coughing. I could not breathe through the nose and suffered from shortness of breath, wheezing, dry throat, husky voice, watery eyes, etc. I was always tired on rising."—February 24th, 1928.

Catarrh, Deafness, Head Noises—Now 4½ Years Since Cured!

MISS HODGSON.

Miss Hodgson, 39, Dunelt Road, Blackpool, S.S., writes:—"It is now 4½ years since the 'Shirley System' cured my Catarrh and Deafness. I am still cured. Before commencing your treatment I had suffered for six years and searched everywhere in my despair for a cure. I tried all sorts of advertised remedies, with no effect. Then in six weeks your wonderful 'Shirley System' had completely cured me. Catarrh, Deafness, Head Noises all vanished. I recommend every sufferer to give your wonderful treatment a trial."—February 16th, 1928.

(Sanalak, Ltd.)

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